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Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

Hal Call dies at 83

by Terry Beswick

Harold Leland Call, philanthropist, businessman, and a founder of the San Francisco chapter of the Mattachine Society in 1954, died in his San Francisco Pine Street home last Thursday, December 14. He was 83.

"Hal Call was a very influential individual in terms of the modern gay rights movement," said James T. Sears, Ph.D., author of the upcoming authorized biography, *Calling Shots. The Life of Times of Hal Call, Male Erotica, and the Gay Movement*, to be published by Hawthorn Press in late 2001. "He was also sadly under-appreciated and ill-understood."

"On one level, he came out of that conservative movement of the 'homophile,'" Sears told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "On the other hand, Call also reflects that Dionysian spirit of sex and sexuality."

Born September 20, 1917, and raised in rural Grundy County, Missouri, Call went to the University of Missouri School of Journalism on a scholarship in 1935. His formal education was interrupted when he served 30 months commanding a World War II Army infantry battalion in combat duty in the Pacific.

After the war, Call returned to journalism school, where he received a degree in 1946. By the late 1940s, he had developed and sold off an innovative and flourishing regional newspaper devoted to feature film reviews and news. The early 1950s found Call in Chicago working as an ad salesman for the *Kansas City Star*.

"Only when police chased a Chicago advertising salesman, Hal Call, out of the Windy City in 1952, did San Francisco get its first permanent gay activist," wrote the late Randy Shilts in his book, *The Mayor of Castro Street*.

In an interview with the B.A.R.'s Randy Collins in September 1997, Call told of a fateful night in August 1952, when he and three acquaintances sat in a parked car near a police precinct. Call and his pals were arrested and held on lewd conduct charges. One of the men couldn't take the heat, Call said, and agreed to point the finger at the other three. Once an obligatory \$800 bribe was paid and the case was dismissed, Call and his boyfriend Jack Feiertag headed west to San Francisco, where he would play a major role in transforming the town into the gay mecca it is today.

"Hal Call was one of the early leaders of the fledgling post-war gay movement," noted Sears. "The Mattachine Society, founded in 1951 by a handful of Angelinos led by Harry Hay, was the first successful effort in organizing homosexuals in the United States. Hal, conservative in politics and demeanor, challenged the Society's secretive structure and communist-influence leading a 'palace coup' that replaced the Fifth Order with

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An abundance of holiday spirit on Castro Street



Joff Swenson is barely visible amid the hundreds of lights and decorations that adorn his home at 68 Castro Street, across from Davies Medical Center. Swenson said he really gets into the holiday spirit, and that he tries to add something new every year.

Jane Philomeni/Celeb

Goodbye to Y2K

A look back at the year's highs and lows

by Katie Szymanski
and Terry Beswick

January

The year began with both tragedy and progress. On New Year's Day, the community lost **Dick Pabich**, a longtime activist, to AIDS-related complications. Pabich, a political strategist, was the architect of many campaigns over the decades to fight homophobia and AIDS and to elect openly gay people to

office. He began his career in the 1970s when he walked into Harvey Milk's camera shop in the Castro and volunteered for Milk's state Assembly campaign; later, as Milk's supervisory aide at City Hall, the pair became known for their joint efforts to establish gay power throughout San Francisco. In the 1980s, Pabich fought against efforts to quarantine people with AIDS when hysteria was at its worst, and more recently, he helped to spearhead statewide back-to-work legislation for people with HIV, legislation that took effect on the day he died. After years of dealing with his own illness, Pabich died at a hospital in San Francisco. He was 44.

At the same time, the

state of California saw its new **domestic partnership law** take effect, a long overdue piece of legislation that was finally championed by **Assemblywoman Carole Migden** (D-San Francisco). As it stands, the legislation provides same-sex couples and heterosexual couples over the age of 62 with a registry, automatic hospital visitation rights, and health insurance for domestic partners of state employees. More benefits are expected.

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Friends created this bus shelter tribute to the late Dick Pabich, who died January 1, 2000.

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Longtime gay activists Harry Hay, right foreground, and his partner John Burnside, were surrounded by members of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence Sunday, December 17 when the Sisters distributed \$10,000 to 21 local nonprofit organizations, including the Harry Hay Documentary Project. The event, held at the Eagle Tavern, featured a beverage benefit for the Gay and Lesbian Historical Society of Northern California and the Sisters Archive Fund. Groups receiving money ranged from the Black Coalition on AIDS to DanceSafe SF Queer Clubs to the Youth Gender Project. Proposals are now being accepted for the Easter 2001 grants. For more information, contact Sister Mary Mae Himm at sismm@jps.net or leave a voicemail on the Sisters' hotline, (415) 552-0220.

Help DSCS programs this holiday season

by Cynthia Laird

Helping others during the holidays can encompass many things, and one local nonprofit organization wants people to know that their clients could use some holiday gifts.

Dolores Street Community Services, which operates a homeless shelter for working poor Latino men, the Richard M. Cohen Residence for people living with AIDS, and a community center that serves residents in the Mission and Castro neighborhoods, put out the call for help during this holiday season.

The Dolores Housing Program run by DSCS is San Francisco's only provider of emergency food and shelter services targeting Latino men. Amilcar Mayen, director of the shelter, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the shelter is currently at full capacity with 120 clients. The men have jobs, but don't earn enough money to afford housing in the city's red-hot real estate market.

The shelter began in 1982 as a sanctuary for Central American refugees. Clients are provided job preparedness training and referrals for clothing, employment resources, legal services, educational opportunities, and permanent housing. The program provides its clients with a home base where they feel welcomed and part of a community. Clients may stay up to 90 days within a year, Mayen explained.

The Richard M. Cohen Residence, added DSCS Executive Director Bob Nelson, is the city's



Amilcar Mayen, director of the Dolores Housing Program

only state-licensed supportive housing facility for people with AIDS in a non-institutional setting. The residence is a 10-bed, 24-hour care facility for homeless men and women with disabling HIV or AIDS. The home is named in memory of a San Francisco resident who died of AIDS-related complications in 1991 and whose estate provided a significant portion of the funds needed to renovate the buildings.

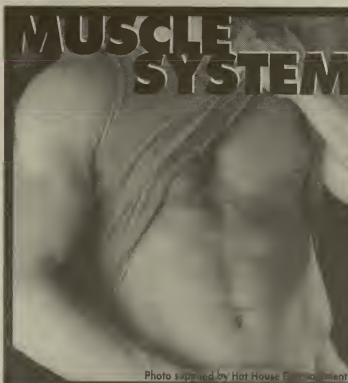
Nelson and Mayen said that interested people can share some joy not only during the holiday season, but throughout the year as both facilities have volunteer opportunities. Specific volunteer needs include a transportation volunteer to drive a van to the food bank and Safeway one day per week in the afternoon, and a cook who can vol-

unteer one to two days a week.

For the holidays, however, DSCS clients could use several items, including personal hygiene supplies such as towels, deodorant, disposable razors, soap, and toothpaste. The agency could also use bus tokens for its clients.

DSCS itself is in need of items for its programs, and has some listed on its "wish list" at www.dscs.org. These larger items include a camera, camcorder, small ice maker, hot/cold water dispensers, and a Pentium class PC-compatible personal computer.

Financial donations can be mailed to DSCS, 938 Valencia Street, San Francisco, CA 94110. Items being donated can also be dropped off at this location. For more information, call (415) 282-6209. ▼



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Holiday dinners for those with less

by Katie Szymanski

In the air this winter is the fresh smell of pine, the optimism of the city's new future, and of course, the generosity that prevails when people plunge head first into the season of giving. Retail sales may be down and some dot-commers may have to find new jobs, but still there is a determination to make things better for those with less. This holiday, consider immersing yourself in the

Ten 15 club to reopen this weekend

by Ed Walsh

San Francisco's most popular dance club, Ten 15 Folsom, is reopening this weekend after having had its license suspended for two weeks under a settlement reached between city officials and the state Alcohol Beverage Control.

ABC's district administrator, Michael Mann, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the shutdown was agreed to by the club to settle the allegation by the ABC that the business was being run in a "disorderly fashion." Mann said the allegation arose from the high number of calls for police assistance made by the club.

Ten 15 first reached an agreement with city officials last May to shut down for a two-week period. The club was allowed to serve both suspensions concurrently. Ten 15's attorney, Joe Wood, told the *B.A.R.* that the club is being renovated during the closure.

As part of the agreement reached with the city, Ten 15 agreed to a series of tough new security measures. The club now searches everyone who enters and has agreed to arrest and detain for police anyone found in possession of drugs.

Public defense attorney Sujung Kim challenged the policy on constitutional grounds. She argued that the agreement made the club security officers de facto police and subject to the Fourth Amendment protections against unwarranted searches by government agents. Kim had hoped to use that defense for two of her clients who were arrested at Ten 15 last spring. But last month, Superior Court Judge Mary Morgan ruled that the questions over constitutionality were irrelevant because the searches of Kim's clients were valid and warranted regardless of whether the club's security officers were de facto police.

Ten 15 hosts the wildly popular gay circuit party, Mass, once a month but is straight the rest of the time. The suspension will not affect the next Mass party scheduled for New Year's Day.

Ten 15 was once home to the then-weekly gay dance club, Colossus. That venue earned it a regrettable footnote in gay history as the place where designer Gianni Versace is believed to have met serial killer Andrew Cunanan in 1990, seven years before Cunanan gunned Versace down on the steps of his Miami Beach mansion. ▼

spirit by volunteering or donating to one of the many free dinners offered throughout San Francisco; the following events may need you to roll up your sleeves or dig into your pockets, but in the end, you'll be glad you did.

The annual **Tenderloin Tessie's Christmas Dinner** will take place at the first Unitarian Church on Franklin Street at Geary on December 25 from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Volunteers are still needed for kitchen shifts and dining room shifts to make sure that the hundreds of people counting on this meal will not be disappointed. The 20-year tradition asks that interested volunteers call (415) 922-0422 for more information.

Glide Memorial United Methodist Church will once again host its holiday festivities for those in need, including a grocery bag giveaway today (Thursday, December 21), and a toy giveaway Friday, December 22. Donations

of new, unwrapped toys are still needed to bring happiness to over 5,000 kids who would otherwise not receive a gift. Christmas meals by Glide will include a Christmas Eve Prime Rib Brunch on December 24 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.; sponsored by House of Prime Rib, volunteers and staff will serve a full course holiday lunch to thousands of poor and homeless families. But the real prize is the church's annual Christmas dinner, on December 25 from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 330 Ellis Street. Thousands of traditional meals will be served, including turkey and ham, stuffing, sweet potatoes, mixed vegetables, pie, and ice cream. Donations of food and money are still needed; call (415) 674-6000 to contribute to this well-known crowd pleasing event.

It's a busy weekend for **Metropolitan Community Church-San Francisco**, which kicks off

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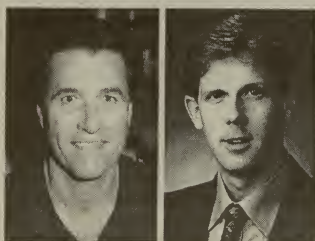
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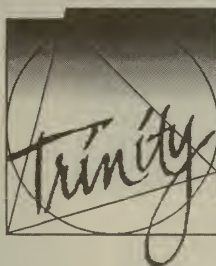
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Internal alarm

by Jane Warner

3 800 block of 18th Street, December 14, 3:36 a.m.: A man woke in the middle of the night to find a strange man lingering in the darkness of his living room. The resident yelled from his bedroom and the suspect fled out the back door. The resident chased the man through his yard where the burglar jumped a fence and disappeared into the night. Fifteen minutes later, however, the resident heard the man in his back yard again. Responding officers found the suspect standing on a 20 foot ledge of the building next door. When they tried to coax him down, the suspect jumped off the ledge and ran under the building. A police dog was released and the suspect soon surrendered. The 31-year-old man was taken to Mission Station and booked for resisting arrest and burglary.

Double whammy

Walgreens, 498 Castro, and Chevron, 2399 Market, December 9, 4:47 a.m.: A man came into the Walgreens store, approached the clerk, and pointed a silver handgun to her forehead. The armed robber started screaming, "Open it! Open it!" while motioning toward the cash register. Fearing for her safety, the clerk backed away from the gunman and fell to the

floor. The robber grabbed another employee and dragged her over to the register, repeating his demand. The clerk opened the drawer and the gunman grabbed \$500 in large bills and ran out the door.

A short time later, employees at the Chevron gas station on the corner of Castro and Market called 911 to report an attempted car jacking. The suspect, who fit the description of the robber at Walgreens, forcibly got into the back seat of a car parked at the gas pumps. The intruder, who was holding a silver handgun and a fistful of cash, told the driver he would pay him to drive him somewhere.

Hearing the sirens of a police cruiser responding to a robbery at Walgreens, the gunman ducked down in the seat, allowing the driver and his passengers to jump out of the vehicle. The suspect, described as an African American male, 25-30 years old, 5 feet 7 inches tall, weighing 180 pounds, wearing a black stocking cap, blue over dark blue jacket, and black pants, was last seen fleeing on foot

eastbound on Market Street. Police were unable to locate him.

Candy man

100 block of Collingwood, December 14, 4 p.m.: While on the pay phone near 18th and Collingwood, a man was approached by another man who threatened, "You crack whore faggot junkie, I'm going to kill you." The suspect left the area and the victim called police.

Due to numerous prior contacts with the suspect, police knew where to find him and they went to his residence on the 100 block of Collingwood. A 16-year-old boy opened the door and officers found the suspect in the bedroom stuffing a bag of suspected methamphetamine into his pocket. Another minor was in the bedroom with the suspect, and a search of the apartment revealed drug paraphernalia, more bags of suspected speed, and \$60 in cash.

The 36-year-old man was taken into custody and booked for terrorist threats, contributing to the delinquency of minors, probation violation, and numerous drug charges. The two minors were taken to the Youth Guidance Center and released to their parents. ▼

Davis acts to cancel Rosenkrantz bail hearing

by Ed Walsh

Governor Gray Davis once again pulled the plug on the parole hopes of gay prisoner Robert Rosenkrantz.

Acting on a last-ditch appeal from Davis, the 2nd District Court of Appeals in Los Angeles canceled a December 15 hearing that would have likely resulted in an order to free Rosenkrantz on bail. The court also canceled a January 18 hearing that could have permanently freed Rosenkrantz on parole.

The appeals court issued its ruling on December 14, on the eve of the bail hearing, in response to a request from Davis to stop the hearing and remove Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Kathryn Ann Stoltz from hearing the case.

After canceling both hearings, the Court of Appeals scheduled a February 20 proceeding to hear arguments over whether to remove Stoltz from the case. The

state has been trying to get Stoltz taken off the case because she's ruled that Rosenkrantz has been unfairly denied parole and should be released.

The Court of Appeals itself has sent mixed messages on the Rosenkrantz case. Last April, the three-judge panel strongly endorsed Stoltz's opinion and rebuked the Board of Prison Terms for not releasing him sooner. However, last September, the court granted the state a stay of release just seconds before Rosenkrantz would have walked free for the first time since he was first arrested for killing his basher 15 years ago.

Davis once vowed to block the parole of all convicted murderers but he recently approved the parole of Rose Ann Parker, a San Bernardino County woman who killed her abusive boyfriend in 1985. Parker was released earlier this month. The governor has blocked the parole of more than 30 other convicted killers. He's vetoed Rosenkrantz's court-ordered parole twice. ▼

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Mission art work defaced with anti-gay messages

by Katie Szymanski

For many San Franciscans involved in progressive activism, the billboard space at the corner of 24th and Bryant streets has offered a refreshing artistic take on current issues. Months ago, we smiled when we happened upon the "Evicted and Exiled" temporary mural that looked like an advertisement for U-Haul but warned instead against displacement. Soon after, "One Last Mexican American Found in the Mission" was a satirical news headline meant to draw attention to the victims of rapid gentrification. And last month, the public space hosted "Heaven," a beautiful portrait that made a statement against oppressive religion while celebrating the love between two women.

But not everyone is appreciative of the political art that hangs for all to see; in the last few months both "One Last Mexican" and "Heaven" have been the targets of anonymous anti-gay vandalism that Galeria De La Raza, the organization sponsoring the murals, has condemned as counter-productive to the murals' very messages.

"These actions can only exacerbate the racism, sexism, and homophobia that justify hate violence," said a statement issued December 13. "Galeria is dedicated to providing a space for art work that

challenges our community in productive and beneficial ways ... when hate violence is directed at our cultural institutions, at our diverse communities and at artists' freedom of expression, the entire community suffers a loss. Panic politics and cultural terrorism prevent us from facing the true problems we have in our communities."

The vandalism and anti-gay messages unfolded, according to Jaime Cortez, program director of

rainbow belongs to everyone, not just a few assholes."

Asked if this vandalism implied that queers are encouraging Latino displacement in the Mission, Cortez said he was not sure.

"At first, the word 'faggot' appeared above Mayor Willie Brown's face, which was depicted in the mural. Then, when the new graffiti appeared, it was just hard to figure out what the angle was."

It came as no surprise to

"These actions can only exacerbate the racism, sexism, and homophobia that justify hate violence. Galeria is dedicated to providing a space for art work that challenges our community in productive and beneficial ways ..."

Galeria de la Raza, as follows:

In October, "One Last Mexican" was defaced with the word, "faggot," and "we just covered it up with white paint," said Cortez.

But a couple of days later, much larger graffiti appeared, this time with a longer message more suitable to conversation than wall scribbles.

"Why do you omit the faggot factor?" the graffiti asked. "The

Cortez and others that "Heaven" was defaced in a similar way on December 1, with "Colored imitators of white man's infatuations with its own genitals" scrawled across the lesbian-themed picture, followed by "Mesmerism that distracts us from real issues like world hunger."

While it is obvious that this vandal is "highly focused," according to Cortez, and not just ran-

domly interested in anti-gay slurs, the real concerns for Galeria de la Raza were the follow-up threats, including a bb gun shot through the window of its gift store on the same corner and a succession of violent e-mails sent to a lesbian on Galeria's staff. The e-mails were signed by an alleged religious group that warned, "Watch your back, you won't see us coming," according to Cortez. "That's when we decided to go public."

Police are investigating the e-mails, but what's most important for Galeria is to take a public stand and announce that the group will not be intimidated, silenced, or censored.

"We are open to discussing community concerns," said Cortez, "But that needs to be done with real dialogue, not anonymous attacks."

The incidents of the past couple months resemble attacks that occurred at Galeria's gift shop in 1997; in September of that year, vandals threw rocks through a window that prominently displayed Latino heroes Che Guevara and Cesar Chavez about to embrace in a kiss.

Galeria de la Raza, through its public murals and its gift shop Studio 24, is dedicated to promoting the work of primarily Latino artists with pertinent social messages. Anyone with information about the recent attacks is asked to call (415) 826-8009. ▼

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OPEN FORUM

On the naughty list

Last year at this time, we told readers about the historic decision by the Vermont Supreme Court that same-sex couples must be granted the same benefits and protections as people in heterosexual marriages. That ruling paved the way for the Vermont Legislature to approve its landmark civil unions law, which the governor signed and which went into effect in July. Despite a concerted effort by conservatives, Governor Howard Dean was re-elected last month, having survived the political fallout from signing the civil unions legislation.

This year, of course, we don't have anything of that magnitude to celebrate; indeed, we are less than pleased with this year's presidential outcome and the prospect of George W. Bush becoming the nation's 43rd president next month. While he spoke last week about wanting to include all Americans in his policies, the president-elect failed to mention gays and lesbians in his list of minority groups; that certainly didn't surprise us, and only makes us more wary of the incoming Bush administration.

Closer to home, of course, the situation is different: what with last week's surprise results in the runoff elections for several seats on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Clearly, voters—at least the 30 percent or so who bothered to go to the polls—were sending a message to Mayor Willie Brown that they are less than satisfied with his leadership, particularly as the first year of his second term is coming to a close. It will be interesting to see how the new board deals with a variety of issues affecting the city, while simultaneously working to keep residents in their respective districts happy. It won't be an easy juggling act.

It concerns us that the new board will only have one woman and no lesbian representation, and that the number of gay supervisors has dropped to two from its current three (which includes one lesbian). But it should be noted that the progressive men who won have pledged representation for all; we expect them to honor that commitment.

Soon after last week's election, Mayor Brown told a daily newspaper that it was the media's fault that his endorsed candidates did so poorly at the polls. That assessment, of course, is hardly accurate, and one has only to look at how the mayor often operates to see that city voters have had enough.

The media didn't fire Planning Commissioner Dennis Antenore; Mayor Brown did. The media didn't approve large-scale developments; Mayor Brown's handpicked Planning Commission did. The media didn't evict an elderly woman and her disabled gay son in District 11; Supervisor Amos Brown, a close ally of Mayor Brown, did. The media didn't ask some candidates to move into a district to run (District 6 being a prime example); the mayor did.

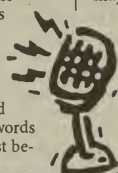
The media didn't refer to some candidates as "crazies," that would be the mayor who uttered those words at his State of the City address just before the November election. Does the media have a responsibility to report on that? You bet.

Another example of how the mayor has lost touch with the city and the gay community is his decision to hold next month's HIV consensus meeting in private. The meeting, at which various public health and medical experts will attempt to come up with an accurate estimate of annual HIV in-

fections in the city, is being closed to the public apparently because the powers that be are afraid of potential disruptions by local dissidents. So, in other words, they are scared of five or six people who yell a lot. While we don't agree with these AIDS denialists, we find it irresponsible for the mayor to hold such an important meeting behind closed doors. After all, it was his

Department of Public Health which sensationalized the so-called "surge" in HIV rates in the city earlier this year, and since then has done little publicly to explain its reasoning. A public airing of the methods used to determine the HIV rates in the city would go a long way toward educating the community, and that's what DPH and others continually say is needed.

Our holiday wish is for the mayor and his AIDS policy adviser to reconsider their decision to close next month's meeting. The future of the city's HIV policies and related funding is too important to the community to have them deprived of attending the meeting if they choose to do so. ▼



Editorial



Nader is important to LGBTs

by Jim Mangia

Now that the hysteria has died down surrounding the presidential election and the nation braces itself for four years of Republican (barely) rule, I think it is important for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community to assess what, if any, gains we made this election season. The Democratic Party-controlled gay leadership, from the Human Rights Campaign (which endorsed Gore without extracting any pro-gay concessions) to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force will say that all is lost because Al Gore lost. Nothing could be further from the truth. In fact, in my opinion, the leverage of the LGBT community may in fact be significantly enhanced by the Democratic Party's failure.

While that may seem like sacrilege to the lesbian and gay establishment, the fact is that Ralph Nader's significant showing in this year's presidential race is one of the most important outcomes of the 2000 presidential campaign. For eight years now, as the founding national secretary of the Reform Party (America's largest third party until Pat Buchanan destroyed it this year) I have been arguing that the independent movement must include the LGBT community. While I disagreed with the Nader campaign's unwillingness to significantly reach out to the "radical white center" (those Ross Perot and Jesse Ventura voters who are strong social libertarians), the fact is that Ralph Nader did have the guts to "come out" on issues of concern to our communi-

ty. Within his overarching message of "political reform," Ralph Nader sent a welcoming message that independent politics was open to the LGBT community. That has been the statement I've been conveying for more than a decade, and I feel tremendously gratified that Nader embraced that perspective. But this is just the beginning.

I recently spoke at NGLTF's Creating Change conference in Atlanta. The workshop on third parties was overflowing with LGBT activists from across the country who voted for Ralph Nader. The White House dispatched its lesbian and gay liaison (Julian Potter) to launch an attack on Nader, saying that Nader's claims that Bush and Gore were virtually the same was confusing to American (and LGBT) voters.

Leaving aside the not-so-subtle assumption that lesbian and gay voters are stupid (since the position articulated by the gay leadership is that a simple statement of opinion by one of the candidates can "confuse" us), the fact is no one was confused at all. The reason that most Americans didn't vote, and more than 2.5 million of them voted for Nader is because they agree with Nader's position that the two parties are becoming increasingly the same and there was no real difference between Bush and Gore. That's why since 1992, more than 30 million people have voted independent in presidential elections.

Americans (and LGBT voters), want more choices. That's why more than 30 percent of gay Americans have shunned the major par-

ties and are registered independent. Neither the Democrats nor the Republicans are offering concrete solutions to the problems facing our nation. Controlled by corporate big money and corrupt special interests, they have sold out principle for the almighty dollar long ago—perverting any sense of public policy in the process. But the growth of third parties in America, most particularly the Greens and Nader's presidential campaign this season, are the most important political tool the LGBT community has that can stem

the ongoing political losses our community has experienced. From the Defense of Marriage Act to "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," the last eight years will not go down in history as victory years for our community. We have the Democrats to thank for that. But more

importantly, in the next election the Democratic Party establishment (and gay leaders who work for them) will be running very scared. Another Nader run, or perhaps a presidential run by pro-gay Minnesota Governor Jesse Ventura may further erode their stranglehold on gay politics, the gay establishment and most importantly, on lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender voters. ▼

Jim Mangia is the founding national secretary of the Reform Party and one of America's leading gay independents. He recently led the fight against the hostile takeover of the Reform Party by Pat Buchanan.

Guest Opinion

LETTERS

Credibility lacking now

Congratulations to the Alice B. Toklas Club on the outcome of its "lavender wave" ruse to elect machine-friendly candidates to the Board of Supervisors. Despite channeling tens of thousands of dollars in soft money from downtown interests and big developers to anti-progressive candidates, the club failed to get most of its endorsees elected. Truly, Alice has no actual credibility in this community, and this last election shows it.

Now watch Alice moan about how these district elections brought less diversity to the board. Watch Alice complain that there are too many white straight men, fewer queers, almost no women, and no lesbians at all on the current board. It won't be long before Alice uses this information to conveniently argue that district elections are to blame.

In truth, Alice itself bears a large responsibility for the lack of diversity on the current board. Instead of backing solid community-based GLBT candidates, it chose to bankroll hollow machine candidates who ran against the neighborhood hollows they were supposed to represent. By setting up weak machine-backed queer candidates against stronger community-based candidates, Alice's "lavender wave" virtually ensured there would be less representation of our community on the board.

In District 6, for example, Alice could have backed Hank Wilson, who has been active in the community for over 20 years, or Denise D'Anne, a transgendered candidate. Instead, Alice threw over \$80,000 at Chris Dittenhafer, a shell of a candidate who moved to the district just this year at Mayor Brown's urging. The result was a lopsided 82-18 percent victory for Chris Daly, a solid progressive candidate. If Alice was truly concerned about diversity, they would have backed a GLBT (and/or female, and/or ethnic) candidate who truly represented the district. If Alice was concerned at all with the district itself, they might have even backed Mr. Daly, who is a (gasp) white straight male, but who has nevertheless shown an understanding and caring for all residents of that district.

By selling the name "GLBT" to the highest bidder, Alice continues to betray queers who live in this city. Instead of backing solid GLBT candidates we can be proud of, Alice instead trots out embarrassments whose only virtue is that they are queer. Indeed, Alice bears more allegiance to downtown interests than to queers trying to get by in this increasingly gentrified city. Alice's only true purpose, really, is to marshal the potent GLBT vote into the service of those who contribute soft money into its coffers. It's nice to see that, despite all their money, their efforts in this election have achieved virtually nothing.

Michael Breshears
San Francisco

Tired of the same old line

I find the letter from the two Alice co-chairs in the last B.A.R. to be as disingenuous as ever, although there was a wistfulness to it I've never seen before, as though the growing opposition to their club was hurting their feelings. Or maybe I'm imagining that. In either case, I still find it tiresome that they are hewing to the same old line: "We know best, we represent queers, and our opponents are childish losers." It kind of sounds like Gingrich at his finest, but it's simply not true.

The last three mayoral elections have amply demonstrated that Alice is out of step with the LGBT community. No problem there. Alice does represent a real part of the LGBT community, probably a core 20-25 percent, based on mayoral election returns, and their voice is a vital and valuable part of our collective voice. But there is a problem with their continued put-downs of the rest of the community. If you want examples of "vindictiveness and spite" I think Carole Migden's comments on Roberta Achtenberg or Tom Ammann would provide your best evidence in recent political life. She can always be relied on for a dig against LGBT candidates who are not Alice members.

In fact, in my observation of SF political life, no one has worked harder to keep LGBT people out of office than Alice, unless perhaps it's Willie Brown. When opposing LGBT candidates, Alice always sings the same song — opposing people from our community (like campaign reformer Tony Miller) demonstrates political maturity. But when it is an Alice Club member running for office, the tune changes: then they want queer solidarity. Well, take the recent defeat of three of the four Alice candidates in this last election as demonstration of the maturity of the queer community. A lot of us have noticed that if, as you say, Migden and Mark Leno have "paved the way," it's because they advanced by trampling on the heads of those LGBTs who were in the way. If it weren't for them, we'd be further along the road to equality today. Remind your members of that, and also remind them that if you take \$100,000 contributions from straight groups to run TV commercials against gay candidates, many of us will hold you responsible. That's not vindictiveness, that's just self-interest. If you are searching for "vocal dissenters to queer power in San Francisco," just look in the mirror.

Steven Karpa
San Francisco

A movement got started

I would first like to thank you. It was with your support that made my bid for San Francisco supervisor possible. It was a very important and historic first step toward starting a movement. A movement to bring honesty and integrity back to City Hall. Our elected supervisors must represent the diverse needs of our districts, not special interests. With district elections, every voice can be heard equally.

I entered the race for supervisor because I am committed making San Francisco a better place and improving the quality of life for all. We must continue this fight for a better city, which puts people before politics. I will remain active, involved and focused on important issues throughout our city. I urge you to do the same. We must hold all our elected officials accountable to the voters.

Thank you, again for your support. My Web site, www.dennisisner.com, will remain up. Please visit it to keep posted on events, news and other important endeavors.

Dennis Isner
San Francisco

Take to the streets

Justice Scalia's "gang of five" has taken a pickax to the roots of the tree of democracy, which is the right of voters to have their votes counted. This assault goes far beyond the question of whether Al Gore or George Bush won the election. It's a question of whether public officials or the people are the ultimate source of power in our nation. Regardless of whether Gore concedes or not, we the people should take to the streets everywhere and disrupt the inauguration in January. Democracy is worth fighting for.

Arthur Evans
San Francisco

Offended at show title

I'm calling on the local gay community to boycott Showtime. Why? They have a new show called *Queer as Folk*. This title is offensive and homophobic. Two words that I hate are "queer" and "fag." I guess people think it is okay, but it is not. Many gay people, including myself, hate the use of these words. Whether in text or said aloud, it is not right to use it. Do we use the N word in a title? No. Well then, let us speak out about the use of the word "queer."

Scott Sproat
Concord, California

Unpleasant experience at bar

On November 30 I had a most unpleasant experience at the My Place bar on Folsom Street. I had spent quite some time talking to a guy that I had met there. After a while he became even more intoxicated. When he purchased a beer at the bar, I believe I heard the bartender tell him that that was going to be the last one they would serve him.

Some time later when he went to get yet another beer, I stated to the bartender in a non-threatening manner that I thought the previous beer was going to be the last one served to that particular individual. The bartender responded very nastily to me, swore at me, and wanted to know what relationship I had to that fellow. I thus made it obvious that I was writing down the time and date of this incident. The doorman was then called to escort me out of the bar.

I decided to call the police. Part of my motivation in doing this was because I had a concern for the person I left behind. I was concerned for his safety. The two officers that arrived told me they could not do much, but that they would talk to the bartender. When they returned from the bar, they said that they were told that I had been the rude one. This is exactly what I had expected would happen.

My intent in writing this letter is not to get someone to lose their job, but rather to influence people to treat others better and to inspire others to look out for one another. I have had better assistance in the form of assistance from other gay men when I was once attacked in a cruisy park at night.

Mauricio Cea
San Francisco

Thanks for support

We want to thank all our brothers and sisters who were invited and attended the sixth annual black leather Christmas party, "Pitch Black" on Saturday, December 9 at Casa Sanchez. We offer special thanks to Daddy Philip Turner, Daddy's bar, Mark Campanilla with Budweiser, Unicorn, Random Chance, Wayne Olsen, Vince, and Mark. Without your help this event would not have come off as well.

This year all the proceeds raised from the event will go to the AIDS Emergency Fund and the Positive Resource Center.

Thanks to all who attended, and to those who couldn't yet make a donation, our thanks as well.

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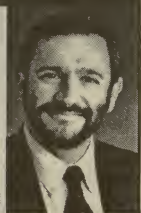
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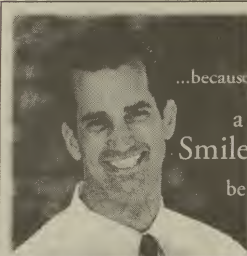
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Dear San Francisco Voter:

Since the thorough defeat of Prop N, which would have made it impossible for renters to ever buy the apartments they live in, we have received thousands of letters of support from San Francisco tenants for increased affordable home ownership opportunities – a “Tenant Ownership Program.” This “T.O.P.” program would allow tenants-in-place to buy the apartments they live in, while protecting tenants who choose to continue to rent.

Many of our new supervisors already support beginning the serious dialogue to create this exciting opportunity for affordable home ownership for tenants. Let’s face it – the only way most San Franciscans will ever be able to realize the benefits of home ownership is through the initiation of such a dialog. Starting in January, we will meet with our elected officials to begin the discussion about this important issue.

If you would like to join us in this effort, or like thousands of others in San Francisco think you may someday be interested in buying the apartment you live in, please clip and mail back the response card below. We will keep you informed about these and other issues that affect all of us. We look forward to listening to other voices for reasonable change. In the interim, please continue to urge our elected representatives to make this a T.O.P. priority.

All the best,

Bartholomew Murphy
President, Coalition for Better Housing



COALITION FOR BETTER HOUSING

YES! I want to be informed about the T.O.P. Program and the issues that affect my home. Please add me to your mailing list to receive future CBH updates.
CBH will never sell or trade address information to solicitors or others.

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☐ I am a homeowner.

☐ I am a renter/future homeowner.

BAR 12-00

Please mail to the Coalition for Better Housing, 1255 Post Street, Box 914, San Francisco, CA 94109

POLITICS

Diminished high court anoints George W. Bush

by Wayne Friday

In the end it mattered little that more than 100 million Americans voted in the November 7 presidential election — 350,000 more of them for **Al Gore** than for **George W. Bush**, incidentally — because at the end of the day, this election was ultimately decided by five members — a mere majority — of the nine-member U.S. Supreme Court.

Five conservative members, three of whom were appointed by **Ronald Reagan**, and the other two were appointed by **George H.W. Bush**, father of the president-elect, handed the election to Bush. So, is the United States Supreme Court, the “court of last resort,” above partisan politics? Hardly. In the end, when push came to shove and all the chips were played, it was the Republican-controlled 5-4 ruling that was as politically-tainted as any move that the Florida Republican Legislature could have ever dreamed up.

Indeed, a couple of days after its politically controversial decision anointing Bush the presidency, one of the high court’s most conservative members, Justice **Clarence Thomas**, himself, of course, among the majority in the 5-4 decision, pleaded with a group of high school students, looking them squarely in the eye, asking them not to believe that the controversial decision was in “any way” a political one. Thomas, the high court’s only African American justice, boldly told them that “I have yet to hear any discussion, in nine years, of partisan politics among my fellow justices.” Thomas added: “I plead with you that, whatever you do, don’t try to apply the rules of the political world to this institution.”

Justice Thomas is not being honest, in my opinion, and he knows it. Is it merely a coincidence that Thomas’s wife, **Virginia**, is an employee of the Heritage Foundation, a conservative think tank that is busily collecting résumés from people seeking employment in the future Bush administration? Could it also be a coincidence that another of the pro-Bush justices, **Antonin Scalia**, has an attorney son who is a law partner of **Theodore Olson**, the lead attorney for Bush and who twice argued before the Supreme Court on behalf of the Texas governor? Still, another Scalia son, **John**, is an attorney in the Miami firm that represented Bush in the Florida election aftermath.

Incidentally, it should be noted that while Justice Thomas once recused himself from hearing an appeal challenging the refusal of a Virginia military academy to admit women because his son was a student there, he wasn’t about to take himself out of the mix when it offered him a chance to cast a political vote to help make the son of the man who gave him his job the next president of the United States. Interestingly, Scalia did not disclose at any time during the two Supreme Court hearings on the disputed presidential election that he has two sons who work for the only two law firms that Bush

hired during the post-election battle both in Florida and in Washington. Sour grapes, you say? Possibly. I’m the first to admit that I was a Gore partisan, but still, this election was stolen for Bush, and in reality, though they will not say so publicly, there are some Republicans who would agree. Yet, one has to hand it to the Bush operatives because once it became clear that the bumbling team of Florida Governor **Jeb Bush** and

his close political ally **Katherine Harris** couldn’t quite figure out how to deliver the Sunshine State to brother George, the scheme was immediately shifted to Washington, D.C. and the Supreme Court where

the Reagan-Bush appointees already had the necessary five votes waiting. The rest is now history — tainted history to be sure — but that’s politics American style.

Politics and people

Sources close to the Bush transition team confirm that Oklahoma Governor **Frank Keating** is on a “short list” for an administration spot; that would make Oklahoma’s Republican lieutenant governor, **Mary Fallin**, that state’s first woman governor.

Those in Marin and Sacramento who know former Assemblywoman **Kerry Mazzoni** will say that her appointment by Governor **Gray Davis** to become California’s next secretary of education was one of the governor’s better picks.

Speaking of Governor Davis, who just happened to be in Washington the day Gore conceded, the Bush win now puts the California governor on the so-called Democratic “short list” for the nomination in 2004. With the departure of President **Bill Clinton** and Vice President Gore next month, Davis actually becomes the nation’s highest-ranking elected Democratic officeholder and the only member of his party to govern a major state. Davis’s more immediate concern, however, is getting re-elected in 2002.

Settling the country’s last disputed congressional race, Democrat **Dianne Byrum** last week conceded to her GOP opponent in a Michigan House race; the final count in the House gives the Republicans a 221-211 edge, with two independents and one vacancy created by the death last week of Representative **Julian Dixon** (D-California). That vacancy, in a heavily Democratic district, will be filled in a few months by a special election.

Board of Supervisors President **Tom Ammann** has every reason to be pleased this holiday season; most of the candidates he endorsed in the runoff were elected and Tom tells me that he happily became a grandfather for the first time this week.

My belated congratulations to the winners in last week’s San Francisco supervisorial runoff election: **Mark Leno**, **Gerardo Sandoval**, **Tony Hall**, **Sophie Maxwell**, **Aaron Peskin**, **Leland Yee**, **Jake McGoldrick**, **Matt Gonzalez**, and **Chris Daly**.

Once again, the holiday season is upon us and I’d like to take this

opportunity to wish the happiest of holidays and a healthy, happy New Year to many of the people who give me something to write about during the year, many of them good friends. Happy holidays to: **Carole Migden** and **Cris Arguedas**; **Willie Brown**; **Mark Leno**; **Dennis and Anne Herrera**; **Mick Riddolfi**; **Bob Ross**; **Tom Horn**; **Dennis Collins**; **Tom Ammann**; **Louise and Paul Renne**; **Jeff Brown**; **Kamela Harris**; **Jack Davis** and **Donald Canady**; **Anna Damiani**; **Dianne Feinstein** and **Dick Blum**; **Teddy Hirschfield**; **Kevin McCarthy**; **Angelo Quaranta** and **Pamela**; **Nancy and Paul Pelosi**; **Gavin Newsom**; **Marge Poscher**; **Gardner Pond** and **Ed Emond**; **Jim Rivaldo**; **Ron Ross**; **Leslie Katz**; **Lawrence Ozoa**; **Tim Armour**; **Morgan Gorrone**; **Mabel Teng**; **Fred Lau**; **Susan Leal**; **Phil Matier** and **Andrew Ross**; **Jim Dewey**; **Mike and Denise Kopel**; **Mitch Katz**; **John Burton**; **Ellen Chaitin** and **V. Roy Leftcourt**; **Michael O’Malley**; **Lillian Sing**; **Kay Tsenin**; **Connie Perry**; **James Fang**; **Jeff Sheehy**; **Sharon McNight**; **Jeff Getty**; **Dana Van Gorder**; **Kevin W. and Paul Johnson**; **Cecil Williams** and **Jan Mirikitani**; **Art and Sherry Agnos**; **Charlotte Mailliard Shultz** and **George Shultz**; **Mike Housh**; **Michael Yaki**; **Robert Oakes**; **Rebecca Prozan**; **Ed Petrillo** and **Eric Johnson**; **Steve Rascher**; **Ted Fang**; **Donna Sachet**; **Harry Britt**; **Donna and Dan Adario**; **Chris Bowman**; **Mark Campanella**; **Steve Cox**; **Robert Barnes** and **Carlos**; **Herb Donaldson**; **Julie Tang**; **Chuck Haines**; **Sidney Chan**; **Ken Cady** and **David Tan**; **Don Rogers** and the **Ginger’s gang**; **Allen Smith**; **Juanita Owens**; **Allen White**; **Hank Wilson**; **Randy Alfred**; **Robin and Marsha Williams**; **Dick “Sweetlips” Walters**; **Bob Sykes**; **Bill Fazio**; **Teri** and the **Transfer crew**; **Bevan Duffy** and **David**; **Kit** and everyone at **The Pendulum**; **Warren Hinkle**; **Elizabeth Colton**; **Bryan James**; **Frank Jordan** and **Wendy Paskin**; **George Kohn**; **Kevin Shelley**; **Leland Yee**; **Paul Melbostad**; **Barbara and Stu Boxer**; **Lawrence Wong**; **Sue Bierman**; **Charlotte Coleman**; **Caroline Marks**; **Meg Mackay** and **Billy Philadelphia**; **Peter Nardoza**; **Hank Plante**; **Ken and the Giraffe crew**; **Scott Shafer**; **Bob Golovich**; **David, James** and everyone at the **Club Rendez-Vous** on Polk Street; **Katherine Feinstein** and **Rick Mariano**; **Joe Bannon**; **Angela Alioto**; **Larry Bush**; **Marcus Conant**; **Cheryl Crane** and **Josh Leroy**; **Marc Gofstein**; **Greta Grass**; **Frederick Hobson**; **Mike and Beverly Hennessey**; **Larry Kramer**; **Rink**; **Duke Smith**; **Frank Robinson**; **Dave Tussey**; **Doris Ward**; **Lee** and everyone at **Mr. Lee-Ona’s** on Turk Street; **Jean Harris**; **Stanley Boyd**; **Joe, Dolores, DeeDee** and all at **Aunt Charley’s**; **Roberta Bobba**; **David Binder**; **Jack Molinari**, and so many, many others. I want to especially wish happy holidays and an even better New Year to **Cynthia**, **Michael Yamashita**, **Mike**, **David**, **Cliff** and the really great staff at the *Bay Area Reporter*; thanks and my best to you all. ▼

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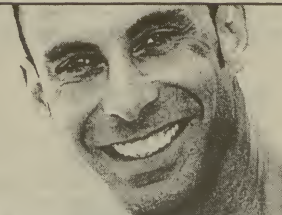
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Who was Paul Cadmus?

by Rawley Grau

December 12, 1999 (One year ago this month): After a provocative career spanning seven decades, painter Paul Cadmus dies just five days before his 95th birthday.

More than 50 years before Robert Mapplethorpe's explicit photographs enraged Senator Jesse Helms, triggering a reassessment of federal arts funding, another gay artist found himself in the center of national controversy because of his frank depiction of sexual desire.

In 1934, the 29-year-old Paul Cadmus submitted a painting under the Public Works of Art Project (PWAP), a New Deal program to employ artists. Titled *The Fleet's In!*, it portrayed a group of rowdy sailors cavorting with floozies as an old lady looks on with disapproval.

The Fleet's In! was shown in a PWAP exhibition in New York and elicited no comment, but when the show moved to Washington's Corcoran Gallery of Art, an admiral was outraged. He wrote an irate letter to Secretary of the Navy Claude Swanson, who had Cadmus's painting removed from the show. Swanson condemned the artwork as "an unwarranted insult" originating "in the sordid, depraved imagination of someone who has no conception of actual conditions in our service."

The press had a field day with the Navy's censorship, and Cadmus became famous overnight.



Paul Cadmus's *The Fleet's In!*

(In all the furor, no one cared to mention the homosexual pickup taking place in the painting: one of the men is accepting a cigarette from a rather effeminate young civilian in a red tie.) Although this controversy is still what he is best known for, Cadmus compiled a remarkable artistic corpus during his 70-year career, including many works imbued with a delicate homoerotic lyricism.

Born December 17, 1904, into an artistic family in New York – his father was a commercial lithographer, his mother, an illustrator – Cadmus decided at an early age to be a painter. At 15, he entered New York's prestigious National Academy of Design, where he received a classical education in art.

After graduation, Cadmus continued his studies at the Art Students League while supporting himself as a commercial artist. In 1926, he met painter Jared French, who became his lover and, although a year younger, something

of a mentor. "Jerry French ... persuaded me that I actually could be an artist and that I needn't be a commercial artist," Cadmus later recalled.

The two men saved their money and in October 1931 set off for Europe on an oil tanker. After bicycling through France and Spain, the couple settled on the island of Mallorca, where Cadmus produced what he considered to be his first mature painting, a very sexy half-length portrait of his lover in bed. This and other works made in Mallorca demonstrate, even at this early stage, the artist's skillful command of group composition and the human form, harking back to such Renaissance painters as Bosch, Rubens, Signorelli, and Caravaggio.

Cadmus and French returned to New York in the fall of 1933. After winning notoriety with *The Fleet's In!*, Cadmus continued throughout his career to make paintings that exposed the uglier side of society, from *Herrin Massacre* (1940), which documents a bloody riot between labor unionists and strikebreakers, to the kaleidoscopic *Subway Symphony* in the 1970s, which portrays an extensive catalog of the human condition.

In 1937, French married the artist Margaret Hoening, a mutual friend of both men. Cadmus never expressed any bitterness over this; on the contrary, all three remained close, spending summers together on Fire Island throughout the 1940s. (Cadmus escaped military service during World War II because of his homosexuality: "I took my artwork with me when I was called [in the draft], and it was pretty clear where I stood," he said later.) Under the collective label PajaMa (from the first letters of their names), Cadmus and the Frenches made a series of remarkable photographs of each other and their friends – often in the nude – including such people as photog-

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Suggested reading and viewing

Kirstein, Lincoln, 1996. *Paul Cadmus*. Revised edition. New York: Chameleon Books Inc.

Leddick, David, 1997. *Naked Men: Pioneering Male Nudes 1935-1955*. New York: Universe Publishing.

Leddick, David, 2000. *Intimate Companions: A Triography of George Platt Lynes, Paul Cadmus, Lincoln Kirstein, and Their Circle*. New York: St. Martin's Press.

Paul Cadmus: Enfant Terrible at 80, 1984. Produced and directed by David Sutherland. A Home Vision videocassette, 64 min.

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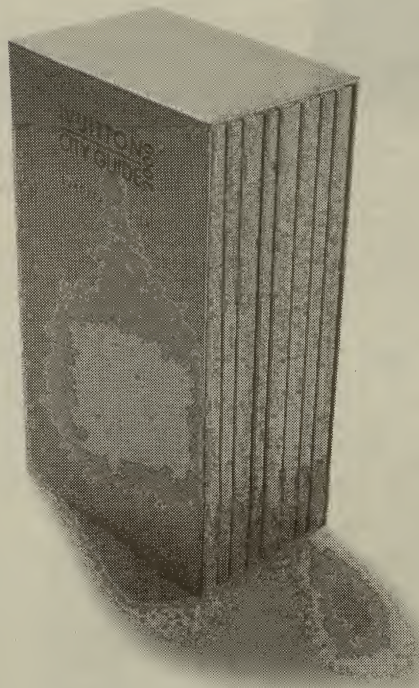


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After Gore, who leads Democrats in '04?

by Paula Martinac

If you think the 2000 presidential race was bad, imagine this nightmare: Bush versus Gore again in 2004. It's amazing that in a country this large and this diverse, these guys were the pick of our two major parties in the last election cycle. A lifelong Democrat, I'm still waiting for my party to get its act together and put forward an electable presidential candidate who can captivate voters, not just with his or her personality but with concrete, progressive ideas as well.

The results of the 2000 election suggest that the country may be ready for a much-needed turn to the left. The combined vote for Gore and Nader totaled 52 percent, the highest margin the left has enjoyed since 1964 and a hopeful sign for the future. Add to this the fact that *The West Wing*, featuring an idealistic liberal president, is one of the country's most popular TV shows.

There hasn't been much buzz in the media, though, about who the next Democratic heir-apparent might be. The tepid speculations about Hillary Rodham Clinton hardly compare to the wild flurry of speculation about the Bush boys in 1994 and 1998.

Bill Bradley, a progressive favorite, has hinted that he might try again in 2004. But, perhaps

even more than Gore, he lacks the palpable fervor it takes to capture the public imagination. And the one thing the Democrats could use is some firing up. Where are the contenders who could combine passion with progressive politics and make going to the polls an exciting prospect instead of a must-do task?

One choice would be Paul Wellstone, the senior senator from Minnesota, who could very well run for president in 2004 if his good friend Bradley opts out. In the tradition of Minnesota liberals like Eugene McCarthy, Hubert

Humphrey, and Walter Mondale, Wellstone is unquestionably one of the most progressive members of either house of Congress.

Wellstone came to the Senate after many years as a political science professor and grassroots organizer. He advocates progressive reform in areas like campaign finance, health care, and welfare. Notably, he uses the term "economic justice" with ease, unusual for a politician holding national office. In addition, he earned a perfect 100 on the Human Rights Campaign's scorecard for the 106th Congress. However, his continued support of the anti-gay Defense of Marriage Act means that he's got a way to go on lesbian and gay issues.

Isn't it time for a Democratic woman to be nominated for president? California Senator Barbara Boxer would be my pick. To the left of the state's other admirable Democratic senator, Dianne Feinstein (whose name was banded about for vice president in 2000), Boxer has a strong record on progressive issues, notably health care and the environment, from serv-

ing 10 years in the House and eight in the Senate. She's a champion of women's rights and a friend to the lesbian and gay movement. In addition, she recently introduced legislation to speed up this country's involvement in the global fight against AIDS.

Another member of Congress to keep an eye on is Jesse Jackson Jr., who represents Chicago's South Side in the House. Jackson maintains that Democratic leaders have moved too far to the center (he reportedly calls his own father "conservative") and has openly criticized President Clinton on the highly charged issue

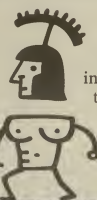
of welfare "reform." He supported Gore in 2000, but primarily because he worried about the harm a Bush administration would inflict on the poor. The young congressman's voting record has garnered praise from women's, gay, and AIDS groups. Hopefully, he'll be a force in Washington for a long time (he's only 35) — maybe even, as his father dreams, the first African American president.

I'm still mad at former New York Governor Mario Cuomo for not running for president in 1992. The good news is that his son, Andrew, currently the secretary of Housing and Urban Development, is a likely contender in New York's 2002 gubernatorial race and is rumored to have even higher ambitions.

Cuomo earned his progressive credentials when he founded Housing Enterprise for the Less Privileged, a nonprofit group that aids the homeless, then went on to chair New York City's Commission on the Homeless. At HUD, Cuomo has distinguished himself by expanding programs for low-

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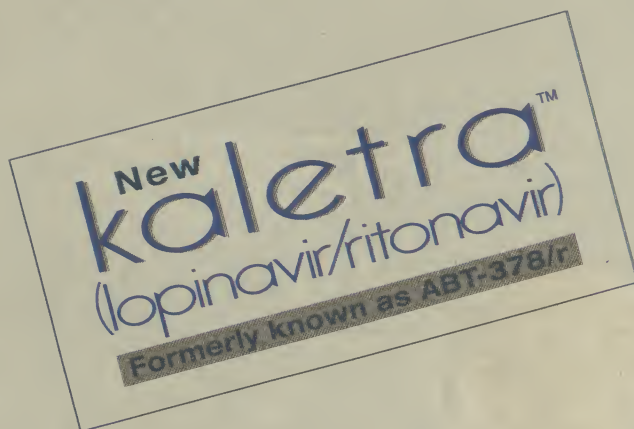
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At present, there are no results from controlled trials evaluating the effect of KALETRA on the clinical progression of HIV.



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Over 24 weeks, most patients found that they could stay with a KALETRA-based regimen. Only 2% of 326 patients stopped taking KALETRA because of drug-related side effects (12% stopped for other reasons).

KALETRA is taken twice daily—in the morning and evening. Your healthcare professional will tell you how much KALETRA to take. KALETRA is to be taken with your choice of food, but there are no rules on what you eat or how much liquid you drink. KALETRA is also available as a liquid.

Safety considerations

KALETRA should not be used with ergotamine, ergonovine, dihydroergotamine, and methylergonovine such as Cafergot®, Migranal®, D.H.E. 45®, Ergotrate Maleate, Methergine® and others, Halcion® (triazolam), Hismanal® (astemizole), Orap® (pimozide), Propulsid® (cisapride), Rythmol® (propafenone), Seldane® (terfenadine), Tambocor™ (flecainide), Versed® (midazolam).

Taking certain drugs with KALETRA could create the potential for life-threatening side effects. Always talk to your doctor or pharmacist before starting new medications.

KALETRA should not be taken if you have had an allergic reaction to KALETRA (lopinavir/ritonavir) or any of its ingredients.

Pancreatitis and liver problems have been reported in patients receiving KALETRA. In some patients taking protease inhibitors, increased bleeding (in patients with hemophilia) and diabetes/high blood sugar have occurred. Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients receiving ARV therapy. Some patients receiving KALETRA have had large increases in triglycerides and cholesterol, which should be monitored before and during therapy.

The most commonly reported KALETRA-related side effects of moderate severity are: abnormal stools, diarrhea, feeling weak/tired, headache, and nausea.

For more information about KALETRA: Call 1-800-441-4987 toll free.

Ask your doctor or other healthcare professional.

Please see adjacent page for Patient Information.

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(lopinavir/ritonavir) oral solution

ALERT: Find out about drugs that should NOT be taken with KALETRA. Please also read the section "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA."

Patient Information
KALETRA™
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Generic Name: lopinavir/ritonavir
(lop-IN-uh-veer/rit-ON-uh-veer)

Read this leaflet carefully before you start taking KALETRA. Also, read it each time you get your KALETRA prescription refilled, in case something has changed. This information does not take the place of talking with your doctor when you start this medicine and at check ups. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about KALETRA.

What is KALETRA and how does it work?

KALETRA is a combination of two medicines. They are lopinavir and ritonavir. KALETRA is a type of medicine called an HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) protease (PRO-tee-ase) inhibitor. KALETRA is always used in combination with other anti-HIV medicines to treat people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. KALETRA is for adults and for children age 6 months and older.

HIV infection destroys CD4 (T) cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of T cells are destroyed, acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) develops.

KALETRA blocks HIV protease, a chemical which is needed for HIV to multiply. KALETRA reduces the amount of HIV in your blood and increases the number of T cells. Reducing the amount of HIV in the blood reduces the chance of death or infections that happen when your immune system is weak (opportunistic infections).

Does KALETRA cure HIV or AIDS?

KALETRA does not cure HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of KALETRA are not known at this time. People taking KALETRA may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, and *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections.

Does KALETRA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

KALETRA does not reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Continue to practice safe sex and do not use or share dirty needles.

How should I take KALETRA?

- You should stay under a doctor's care when taking KALETRA. Do not change your treatment or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.
- You must take KALETRA every day exactly as your doctor prescribed it. The dose of KALETRA may be different for you than for other patients. Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.
- Dosing in adults (including children 12 years of age and older): The usual dose for adults is 3 capsules (400/100 mg) or 5.0 mL of the oral solution twice a day (morning and night), in combination with other anti-HIV medicines.
- Dosing in children from 6 months to 12 years of age: Children from 6 months to 12 years of age can also take KALETRA. The child's doctor will decide the right dose based on the child's weight.
- Take KALETRA with food to help it work better.
- Do not change your dose or stop taking KALETRA without first talking with your doctor.
- When your KALETRA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to KALETRA and become harder to treat.
- Be sure to set up a schedule and follow it carefully.
- Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give KALETRA to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

What should I do if I miss a dose of KALETRA?

It is important that you do not miss any doses. If you miss a dose of KALETRA, take it as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose at its regular time. If it is almost time for your next dose, do not take the missed dose. Wait and take the next dose at the regular time. Do not double the next dose.

What happens if I take too much KALETRA?

If you suspect that you took more than the prescribed dose of this medicine, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

As with all prescription medicines, KALETRA should be kept out of the reach of young children. KALETRA liquid contains a large amount of alcohol. If a toddler or young child accidentally drinks more than the recommended dose of KALETRA, it could make him/her sick from too much alcohol. Contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately if this happens.

Who should not take KALETRA?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether KALETRA is right for you.

- Do not take KALETRA if you are taking certain medicines. These could cause serious side effects that could cause death. Before you take KALETRA, you must tell your doctor about all the medicines you are taking or are planning to take. These include other prescription and non-prescription medicines and herbal supplements.

For more information about medicines you should not take with KALETRA, please read the section titled "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA."

- Do not take KALETRA if you have an allergy to KALETRA or any of its ingredients, including ritonavir or lopinavir.

Can I take KALETRA with other medications?*

KALETRA may interact with other medicines, including those you take without a prescription. You must tell your doctor about all the medicines you are taking or planning to take before you take KALETRA.

MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA.

- Do not take the following medicines with KALETRA because they can cause serious problems or death if taken with KALETRA:
Dihydroergotamine, ergonovine, ergotamine and methylexergotamine such as Cafergot®, Migranal®, D.H.E. 45®, Ergotrate Maleate, Methergine, and others
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Orap® (pimozide)
Propulsid® (cisapride)
Rhythmol® (propafenone)
Seldane® (terfenadine)
Tambocor® (flecainide)
Versed® (midazolam)
- Do not take KALETRA with rifampin, also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®. Rifampin may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood and make it less effective.
- Do not take KALETRA with St. John's wort (hypericum perforatum), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or planning to take St. John's wort. Taking St. John's wort may decrease KALETRA levels and lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to KALETRA or cross-resistance to other anti-HIV medicines.
- Do not take KALETRA with the cholesterol-lowering medicines Mevacor® (lovastatin) or Zocor® (simvastatin) because of possible serious reactions. There is also an increased risk of drug interactions between KALETRA and Lipitor® (atorvastatin) and Baycol® (cerivastatin); talk to your doctor before you take any of these cholesterol-reducing medicines with KALETRA.

Medicines that require dosage adjustments:

It is possible that your doctor may need to increase or decrease the dose of other medicines when you are also taking KALETRA. Remember to tell your doctor all medicines you are taking or plan to take.

Before you take Viagra® (sildenafil) with KALETRA, talk to your doctor about problems these two medicines can cause when taken together. You may get increased side effects of VIAGRA, such as low blood pressure, vision changes, and penis erection lasting more than 4 hours. If an erection lasts longer than 4 hours, get medical help right away to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.

- If you are taking oral contraceptives ("the pill") to prevent pregnancy, you should use an additional or different type of contraception since KALETRA may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.
- Efavirenz (Sustiva™) or nevirapine (Viramune®) may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood. Your doctor may increase your dose of KALETRA if you are also taking efavirenz or nevirapine.
- If you are taking Mycobutin® (rifabutin), your doctor will lower the dose of Mycobutin.
- A change in therapy should be considered if you are taking KALETRA with:
Phenobarbital
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Carbamazepine (Tegreto® and others)

These medicines may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood and make it less effective.

Other Special Considerations:

KALETRA oral solution contains alcohol. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or planning to take metronidazole or disulfiram. Severe nausea and vomiting can occur.

- If you are taking both didanosine (Videx®) and KALETRA:
Didanosine (Videx®) should be taken one hour before or two hours after KALETRA.

What are the possible side effects of KALETRA?

- This list of side effects is not complete. If you have questions about side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You should report any new or continuing symptoms to your doctor right away. Your doctor may be able to help you manage these side effects.
- The most commonly reported side effects of moderate severity that are thought to be drug related are: abnormal stools (bowel movements), diarrhea, feeling weak/tired, headache, and nausea. Children taking KALETRA may sometimes get a skin rash.
- Blood tests in patients taking KALETRA may show possible liver problems. People with liver disease such as Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C who take KALETRA may have worsening liver disease. Liver problems including death have occurred in patients taking KALETRA. In studies, it is unclear if KALETRA caused these liver problems because some patients had other illnesses or were taking other medicines.
- Some patients taking KALETRA can develop serious problems with their pancreas (pancreatitis), which may cause death. You have a higher chance of having pancreatitis if you have had it before. Tell your doctor if you have nausea, vomiting, or abdominal pain. These may be signs of pancreatitis.
- Some patients have large increases in triglycerides and cholesterol. The long-term chance of getting complications such as heart attacks or stroke due to increases in triglycerides and cholesterol caused by protease inhibitors is not known at this time.
- Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) occur in patients taking protease inhibitors such as KALETRA. Some patients had diabetes before starting protease inhibitors, others did not. Some patients need changes in their diabetes medicine. Others needed new diabetes medicine.
- Changes in body fat happen in some patients getting anti-HIV medicines. These changes may include increased fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast and abdomen (stomach area). Loss of fat from the face, legs, and arms may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.
- Some patients with hemophilia have increased bleeding with protease inhibitors.
- There have been other side effects in patients taking KALETRA. However, these side effects may have been due to other medicines that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Some of these side effects can be serious.

What should I tell my doctor before taking KALETRA?

- If you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant: The effects of KALETRA on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known.
- If you are breast-feeding: You should not breast-feed if you have HIV. If you are a woman who has or will have a baby, talk with your doctor about the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that HIV can be transmitted through breast-feeding.
- If you have liver problems: If you have liver problems or are infected with Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C, you should tell your doctor before taking KALETRA.
- If you have diabetes: Some people taking protease inhibitors develop new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Tell your doctor if you have diabetes or an increase in thirst or frequent urination.
- If you have hemophilia: Patients taking KALETRA may have increased bleeding.

How do I store KALETRA?

- Keep KALETRA and all other medicines out of the reach of children.
- Refrigerated KALETRA capsules and oral solution remain stable until the expiration date printed on the label. If stored at room temperature up to 77°F (25°C), KALETRA capsules and oral solution should be used within 2 months.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

General advice about prescription medicines:

Talk to your doctor or other health care provider if you have any questions about this medicine or your condition. Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Patient Information Leaflet. If you have any concerns about this medicine, ask your doctor. Your doctor or pharmacist can give you information about this medicine that was written for health care professionals. Do not use this medicine for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not share this medicine with other people.

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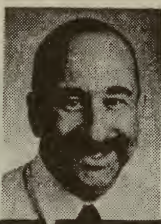
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Goodbye to Y2K

◀ page 1

to be added next year.

Blacks and Latinos now lead the nation in new AIDS cases, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced on January 13. While they are only 25 percent of the population, 52 percent of AIDS cases among men who have sex with men occur in people of color, according to the CDC.

Locally, The San Francisco Department of Public Health announced that AIDS deaths were on the decline, with 236 reported for 1999.

The Oakland Police Department made some accidental progress just two months after participants of the annual Creating Change conference happened to catch officers harassing transgendered people on the street. The conference — sponsored by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and in town for just a few days in November 1999 — staged an impromptu demonstration that demanded, among other things, an LGBT liaison. Police Chief Richard Word followed through, taking some dramatic steps at the beginning of the year.

On January 11, Supervisor Michael Yaki drew a firestorm of criticism when he announced on KTVU-TV Channel 2 that a helicopter crash that killed two San Francisco police officers could have been avoided if it weren't for the city's landmark domestic partnership law. According to Yaki, the doomed helicopter had to fly 200 miles away to find a maintenance service that complied with San Francisco's equal benefits ordinance; the copter crashed outside of Porterville, in Tulare County. The implication was that if it weren't for the law requiring companies that do business with the city to offer the same benefits to same-sex and heterosexual couples alike, the officers would still be alive. Not only was Yaki's assertion quickly deemed to be untrue, but community leaders said his announcement was inflammatory by calling on the public to review a population's civil rights.


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One of the many demonstrations in San Francisco to protest Dr. Laura Schlessinger's television show.

The University of California at San Francisco announced the creation of the first-ever **Lesbian Health Research Center** to study diseases in lesbian, MTF, and FTM populations, and to create an information bank to store and share relevant data.

Robert Rosenkrantz, the gay man sentenced to 17 years to life for killing his gay basher in high school, was awarded a new parole hearing on January 20 by a Los Angeles Superior Court judge. The victory was short-lived, however, as Rosenkrantz's battle for freedom continues to this day.

Activists fought to get San Jose police to recognize that a murdered transgendered youth was the victim of a hate crime. Police, who found a naked male body in the trunk of a young man's car on January 19, just couldn't understand the concept that the deceased had lived her life as a female named Alina; her friends at the local community center surmised that she was killed when alleged perpetrator Scott Santino took her home and discovered that she had male sex organs.

Supervisor Mark Leno had his medical marijuana identification cards legislation approved by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors on January 24; the cards, available at the Department of Public Health, are meant to make taking easier for those with a medical need.

Recognizing the new manageability of HIV, several local AIDS organizations expanded their services to include people with other illnesses. The AIDS Emergency Fund started fundraising for its Breast Cancer Emergency Fund to help ailing women with medical costs, utilities, and rent, and to give back to lesbians what they gave to their male friends during the AIDS crisis. Project Open Hand also began to deliver hot meals to homebound people with critical illnesses in order to fulfill its mission to "serve those in need."

On a sad note, the month ended with the crash of Alaska Airlines Flight 261 from Mexico to San Francisco. The plane crashed in the Pacific Ocean off the Ventura County coast on January 31, claiming the lives of all 88 people aboard. Several LGBT passengers from the Bay Area were among the victims, including gay men Will Byrant, James (Jay)

Luque, and transgendered woman Toni Choate.

February

The campaign against Proposition 22 — the anti-gay ballot initiative created by right-wing state Senator Pete Knight (R-Palmdale) that defined marriage as between a man and a woman — began to heat up, with No on Knight raising millions in an effort to defeat it. Many gay activists also became involved in the fight against Proposition 21, a hateful ballot measure designed to imprison a young generation, mainly youth of color, for crimes as benign as graffiti.

Jurors cannot be dismissed from a trial because of their sexual orientation, a Fourth District Court of Appeals ruled on February 1. The state court's decision said that gays and lesbians constitute a "cognizable" group and therefore cannot be excused from a jury based on their membership in that group. The ruling also affirmed that LGBT representation on a jury could be a benefit to deliberations and positively affect society as a whole.

San Francisco is a designated safe haven for binational LGBT couples, the Board of Supervisors said in a resolution passed on February 1. While largely symbolic, the resolution, introduced by Supervisor Leslie Katz, announced that the city will not cooperate with federal immigration investigations.

Charges were dropped in the "San Diego Six" case, a horrifying scenario whereby police raided an SM party and arrested participants for "lewd behavior" and "nudity." After one trial was won outright when a jury found in favor of the defendant, the district attorney announced on February 1 that the office would not pursue the case further.

A gay-straight alliance in Orange County was granted permission to meet during a court trial that challenged its very existence. Students at El Modena High School were victorious, but school officials retaliated by requiring parental consent to join the club.

St. John's wort may interfere with AIDS drugs, scientists announced in a report issued February 12. The herbal remedy for depression speeds up the way the liver metabolizes protease inhibitors, greatly reducing the

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amount of HIV treatment in the blood, according to researchers.

The drug **GHB** took center stage again when a rash of incidents prompted Supervisor Mark Leno to propose "safe haven" laws for clubs that are under increased police scrutiny for illegal substances. Under the proposal, club owners could not be penalized for calling an ambulance when a patron is suspected to have overdosed on drugs.

Castro gentrification was epitomized as **Pottery Barn** prepared to move into its new space at 2390 Market Street despite neighborhood objections.

In the midst of a booming economy, **DPH** announced some drastic cuts to its public services, including the elimination of San Francisco General Hospital's pharmacy and the slashing of mental health beds at the facility. Expressing concerns over the availability of care to city residents in need, Supervisor Tom Ammiano called for an audit of SFGH to see what was happening with its finances.

Protests against **Dr. Laura Schlesinger** got into full gear on February 24, dozens of LGBT people gathered in front of KGO radio in San Francisco to oppose the right-wing "therapist" and her anticipated television show, now doing delightfully miserable in the ratings.

March

Inevitably, **Proposition 22** won big on election night in California on March 7, and the millions of dollars spent by both sides did absolutely nothing to change the approval ratings over the months of campaigning: 61 percent of voters decided that marriage was too sacred for same-sex couples, while 39 percent voted against the divisive measure. **Proposition 21** was also approved by a wide margin.

Things could have been worse, of course, especially if you were one of the mice or humans subjected to the experiments that determined **nonoxonyl-9** as an **HIV risk**. According to a report issued at an international conference entitled **Microbicide 2000**, the jelly cream hailed as a sperm killer and once thought to aid in HIV prevention actually appeared to cause an irritation in subjects, leaving them even more vulnerable to infection.

It was a busy month for **AIDS dissidents** and the subsequent backlash; South African President Thabo Mbeki began to question the cause of AIDS, inviting prominent dissidents to July's International AIDS Conference. The result, as we know, was not pretty. Here in San Francisco, **ACT UP/Golden Gate** changed its name to **Survive AIDS** in order to avoid being confused with the dissident group **ACT UP/San Francisco**.

San Francisco crowned a new **Mr. Leather** on March 10 when the honors were bestowed upon local talent **Lance Gear**.

In national news, for the first time ever, the **census** included **LGBT families** by allowing couples to check an "unmarried partner" box for each other, thereby recognizing and counting this important demographic.

AIDS Benefits Counselors (now the Positive Resource Center) co-founder **Audrey K. Doughty** died on March 20. She was 79.

The Santa Cruz City Council voted unanimously on March 29 in favor of an ordinance that will allow patients to grow and use **medical cannabis**.

Community United Against Violence named **Terry Person** as its executive director; Person, a lesbian of color, replaced the elusive **Ruth Bukowiecki** who headed the organization for less



CUAV's Terry Person

than a year.

Elizabeth Farrel Kaiser passed away at her home in Port Costa, California on March 30 after a long struggle with breast cancer. Her lover, **Dr. Margaret E. Poscher**, was by her side.

Jews gave gays and lesbians a thumbs-up on March 29 when the Rabbinical Body of Reform Judaism declared that same-sex Jewish relationships are worthy of ritual celebration.

And **Catholics came out** of the closet about the sexual abuse endured by many at the hands of the holier-than-thou priesthood; on March 29 the Oakland Archdiocese apologized on behalf of all the troubled souls in hopes of nurturing a "reconciliation." Nationally, the church has spent \$1 billion settling sexual abuse lawsuits. And this is the institution that says we need help.

April

While murder rates fell nationally, murders against LGBT people increased dramatically, with California seeing a 200 percent increase in 1999, according to a report from the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs released April 6 by Community United Against Violence. **Anti-LGBT assaults** were down, but the violence occurring within these assaults were up. For example, 325 incidents were reported in San Francisco in 1999, down 18 percent from 1998. However, 60 percent of those assaulted in 1999 were seriously injured, a 20 percent increase from the previous year.

With a \$3,000 grant from the Castro Street Fair, **Gilbert Baker** restored the **rainbow flag** that has come to symbolize gay freedom flying over Harvey Milk Plaza at Castro and 18th Streets to its original eight-color design, adding back fuchsia and turquoise.

After an investigation and autopsy, San Francisco Medical Examiner **Dr. Boyd Stephens** determined that **Jeff Goring**, the 35-year-old San Jose man who collapsed at **Club Universe** February 13, likely died of a heart attack. There was no evidence that drugs played any role in Goring's death.

Longtime disability rights activist **Bill Hirsh** was named executive director of the **AIDS Legal Referral Panel**, the leading provider of legal services to people with HIV in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Several members of **AIDS** dissident group **ACT UP/SF** violently disrupted an April 17 public educational forum co-hosted by Project Inform and **Survive AIDS** (formerly **ACT UP/Golden Gate**), screaming, throwing hard pills at attendees, and spitting. One Project Inform staffer was injured when she tried to break up a melee between audience members and the HIV denials, who fled before police arrived. Meeting organizers promised to pursue restraining orders against the activists.

No on Knight/No on Proposition 22 campaign officials revealed that about **\$250,000** was left over from their \$7 million attempt to defeat the anti-gay statewide proposition. No on Knight officials said the money would be used to help expand legal protections for gay and lesbian couples and their families through a fund administered by the nonprofit **Horizons Foundation**.

The **Metropolitan Community Church-San Francisco** celebrated 30 years of "making things happen" on April 26 with a special evening service.

Edgard Mora was sentenced to five years in prison for involuntary manslaughter after accepting a plea bargain offered by the San Francisco District Attorney's office, including a two-year hate crime enhancement for the one-punch death of openly gay **Brian Wilmes** outside a San Francisco bar on March 12, 1998.

After failing to gather 670,000 signatures by April 20 to put their proposal to legalize gay marriage on the November 2000 ballot in California, openly gay brothers **Tom** and **John Henning** of **Californians for Same-Sex Marriage** announced a new campaign to try again for November 2002.

About 75 medical marijuana
next page ►

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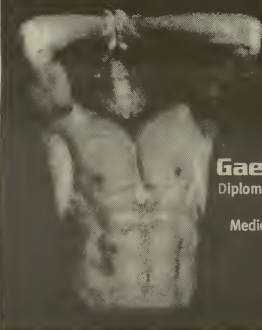
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BAY AREA REPORTER

HOLIDAY DEADLINES

Due to the upcoming Holidays, The BAY AREA REPORTER will have slightly altered deadlines. Please make a note of the following:

Issue #52

Street Date: December 28th

All Classified/Personals/Display ads:

ALL ads MUST be turned in
NO LATER THAN FRIDAY,
DECEMBER 22nd AT 12:00 PM.

Issue #01

Street Date: January 4th

All Classified/Personals/Display ads:

ALL ads MUST be turned in
NO LATER THAN FRIDAY,
DECEMBER 29th AT 12:00 PM.

Additionally, The BAY AREA REPORTER offices will be closed on
December 25th, 2000 and January 1, 2001.

Goodbye to Y2K

◀ previous page

activists picketed outside the San Francisco Department of Public Health on April 20, concerned that DPH officials had failed to consult them on the design and implementation of a planned medical marijuana identification card program.

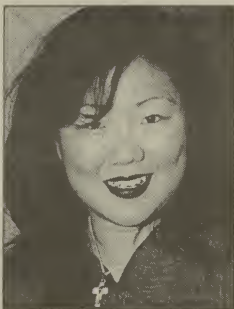
"I have no idea what you're talking about," responded one of the seven individuals who had secretly formed the GTT Trust to borrow \$800,000 from venture capitalist and fellow HIV denialist Robert Leppo and close the \$760,000 purchase of the 1884/1886 Market Street building where they operate a medical marijuana dispensary under the name ACT UP/San Francisco.

Chuck Fruthey, former president of the board for the Stop AIDS Project and a co-founder of the Coalition for Healthy Sex, died April 6 of AIDS-related causes. He was 46.

May

At a City Hall meeting with Supervisor Mark Leno on Wednesday, May 3, the Bechtel Group announced that they would begin offering equal benefits to all domestic partners of their 9,500 salaried employees throughout the United States. Subsidiary Bechtel Infrastructure, which was in final negotiations with the city Public Utilities Commission to help run billions of dollars worth of construction projects, had been in compliance with the city's DP ordinance while the parent Bechtel Group was not.

"They like me!" exclaimed San Francisco Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano. "They really like me." Ammiano and lesbian icons Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon were announced May 3 as the community's picks for the LGBT Pride Parade's 2000 grand marshals. The AIDS Emergency Fund won the organizational marshal position. Ellen DeGeneres was selected to be the celebrity grand marshal, but when she did not respond to an invitation, the honor went to fellow comedienne Margaret Cho.



Margaret Cho

Temporary restraining orders were issued by San Francisco Superior Court Judge Alfred G. Chiantelli on May 5 and May 9 against five members of ACT UP/San Francisco, an HIV denialist group, requiring them to stay at least 100 yards away from Project Inform employees and volunteers. And on May 15, the judge issued arrest warrants for four of the ACT UP/SF members, who were being charged with trespassing at an April 17 forum. Two of the warrants included charges of misdemeanor assault.

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors unanimously passed an ordinance on May 8 that added body size to the city's non-discrimination code. The body bias ordinance proposed by board President Tom Ammiano gives people a legal basis for challenging discriminatory treatment due to their weight or height.

About 20 local activists picked outside KPPIX-TV's Battery Street offices on May 8 to protest the planned airing of Dr. Laura Schlessinger's television program in the fall.

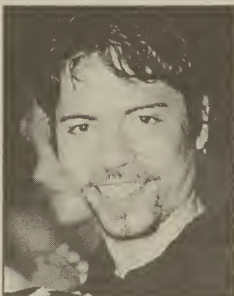
South Africa President Thabo Mbeki appointed a 33-member panel to advise him on how best to handle the HIV/AIDS epidemic in his country, where one in 10 are infected with HIV. About half the panel's members, including Berkeley HIV denialist Peter Duesberg, were individuals who do not believe that HIV causes AIDS. The panel held its first meeting the weekend of May 5 in Pretoria.

The San Francisco Department

of Public Health acknowledged that it had received only one application by the May 10 deadline to run the new transitional housing facility for LGBTQ youth at 2500 Market Street. The application was from the nonprofit Ark of Refuge, which had run two previous shelters serving the Castro's queer youth.

Kiyoshi Kuromiya, a pioneering gay activist and AIDS treatment advocate, died May 10 from complications of AIDS and cancer in a Philadelphia hospital. He was 57.

According to IRS forms for fiscal year 1998-99 released by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation in mid-May, SFAF Executive Director Pat Christen's salary and benefits totaled \$201,320 that year. Board chair Lonnie Payne called the salary "well within the market range for large nonprofits."



Rudy Galindo

Champion figure skater Rudy Galindo, who earlier in the year had learned that he was HIV-positive, led about 1,000 people in the 17th annual International AIDS Candlelight Memorial and Mobilization in San Francisco on May 21.

Longtime AIDS and civil rights activist Eileen Hansen announced her candidacy on May 22 for the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, challenging incumbent Supervisor Mark Leno for the seat representing District 8, which includes the Noe Valley and Castro neighborhoods.

June

The International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission staged a protest outside the Italian Embassy in San Francisco on June 1, protesting Mayor Francesco Rutelli of Rome's attempt to cancel World Pride Roma, slated for July 1-9.

The San Francisco HIV Prevention Planning Council decided, after some deliberation, that HIV does in fact cause AIDS, and issued a declaration in early June saying so.

America's three largest automakers announced June 8 that they would begin extending healthcare benefits to the domestic partners of all their employees. The announcement from General Motors Corporation, Ford Motor Company, and the Chrysler division of DaimlerChrysler AG covered about 345,000 employees.

In a 2-1 decision released June 8, the Texas Court of Appeals struck down that state's sodomy law on the grounds that it violates the Equal Rights Amendment of the Texas Constitution on the basis of a person's sex.

Overturning two lower court decisions, the California Supreme Court ruled unanimously on June 19 that the Paul Revere Life Insurance Company had violated state law when it denied disability benefits to a Los Angeles-area man who was diagnosed with AIDS in 1994.

A poll released June 21 showed that a majority of California voters—particularly younger voters—believe that committed relation-

page 23 ▶

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If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Ron McClenon (AKA Ronnetta Fats)

November 22, 2000

Ron McClenon, AKA Ronnetta Fats, Cowgirl II of All California, passed away at his home in Clearlake, California after

a long battle with AIDS.

He leaves his sister and brother-in-law, Audrey Garcia and Frank Garcia, and his partner of 15 years, Thomas Dunn and his two Boston Terriers, Tiffany and Beethoven, and many friends.

He was always a star, and hopes his star will always shine.

He will be missed by all who knew him. May he find happiness on his long trip home.

Ronnetta, I will always love you. — Thomas

Fern Way (AKA Spike)

1932-2000

Spike left us hitch-hiking her way along the great highway to Heaven to join her beloved Sable the Clown. She leaves behind all her friends at Mr.



Lee-Ona's, her favorite watering hole. Good night, our friend. We miss you even though we know you're not that far away.

A celebration of life will be held at Mr. Lee-Ona's, 301 Turk St., San Francisco, on January 6, 2001 at 3pm.

John G. Wegner

February 10, 1934 —
October 26, 2000

After a five-year struggle with cancer, Johnnie succumbed to it on October 26. He died at home. His sister and I were at his side. He will be sorely missed by his brother Greg and family, his sister Carol and family, his numerous friends, and me, Rados Marinovic, his life companion of 42 years.

A memorial mass will be celebrated at the Church of the Most Holy Redeemer (Diamond & 18th St.) on January 12 at 7 p.m., a Friday. Father Shore will officiate. You are most welcomed to join us.



Hal Call

◀ page 1

openly elected officers under a new constitution in 1953."

Call himself said in 1997, "The early movement got its impetus for outreach from the San Francisco chapter."

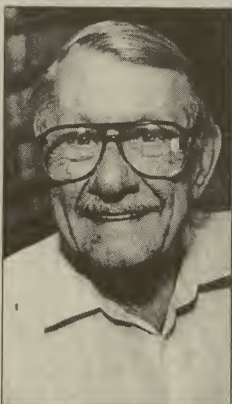
Call's publishing background helped give rise to *The Mattachine Review*, one of the first publications to discuss homosexuality openly in America. Call and partner Don Lucas founded the Pan Graphic Press in 1954 to publish the review, plus fiction and non-fiction gay-oriented publications, including *Dorian Book Quarterly* with various reviews of books on "sexual variance and related themes" and essays. Pan Graphic press also printed the lesbian periodical, *The Ladder*, edited by Daughters of Bilitis founders Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon for most of its first year starting in 1956.

"In the 1950s," Call said, "printed matter on homosexuality was very meager indeed. Most problems centered around law enforcement."

A constant victim of porno laws of both local and federal authorities from the post office, on several occasions Call was arrested for distributing his mildly pornographic magazines through the mail. And during the early 1960s, his dedication to freedom of speech finally won a federal ruling allowing him to distribute his gay-oriented magazine through the U.S. Postal Service.

In 1959, San Francisco Mayor George Christopher was re-elected by a wide margin when his opponent blunderously tried to use the pervert/deviate issue against him, citing his tolerance of the Mattachine Society. Call said that was the first instance in which the issue was used in a political election in the U.S.

"Call was influential in moving city government — particularly the mayor's office and the police — away from its anti-homosexual stance," commented Sears, "from providing financial support and printing services to Jose Sarria's campaign for city supervisor (the first openly gay man to run for public office in the United States) to lending a hand to the Tavern Guild (the first in the country) — and designing its logo, and assisting ministers in forming the influential Council on Religion and the Homosexual. Hal also worked quietly behind the scenes in controversies associated with the bohemian Black Cat and was instrumental in helping Alfred Kinsey identify subjects for his famous study."



The late Hal Call in 1994.

Call was featured in a *Life* magazine article called "The Homosexual" in 1964, and later appeared in a CBS documentary of the same name hosted by Mike Wallace.

In a landmark 1967 federal court case, Conrad Germain and Lloyd Spinar of DSI Sales in Minnesota were charged with 29 counts of producing and mailing obscene materials. The government prosecuted its case based on the proposition that the DSI materials appealed primarily to homosexuals, and therefore would be classified as obscene. Call was instrumental in securing and organizing witnesses who testified on behalf of DSI, and helped the court reach a stunning decision.

In a seven-page ruling, the court stated "the materials have no appeal to the prurient interest of the intended recipient deviant group; do not exceed the limits of candor tolerated by the contemporary national community; and are not utterly without redeeming social value..."

Further commenting directly on the subject of homosexuality,

the court said, "The rights of minorities expressed individually in sexual groups or otherwise must be respected. With increasing research and study, we will in the future come to a better understanding of ourselves, sexual deviants, and others."

Also in 1967, Sears noted, Call opened Adonis Bookstore on Ellis Street with partners Robert Trollop, Jack Tennyson, and Bob Damron. The city's first gay venue sold bold magazines like *Golden Boys* (owned by Damron/Trollop), physique magazines, and homosexual literature.

That same year, Call's Grand Prix PhotoArts Films also began production. Later, Call formed Adonis Video, and was a pioneer in gay male erotica, perfecting techniques for the best display of sexual action that centered on the penis.

In the 1970s, the Adonis bookstore begot the Circle J Cinema, which is still in business as a video review parlor and jackoff club in the Tenderloin District.

In 1991, Call received the Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Sexuality's honorary doctorate of arts in erotology (the study of erotica).

Call made donations to many gay-related causes over the years, and in 1995, under the auspices of the One Inc. Foundation, a Mattachine counterpart group, he donated \$50,000 to the newly founded Gay Studies Program at the University of Southern California. USC now offers fully accredited gay studies and houses the Mattachine and One Inc. archives, all thanks to contributions by Call and others.

Call was a close friend of B.A.R. publisher Bob Ross for 45 years.

Call's remains were to be cremated, and no memorial service was planned. ▼



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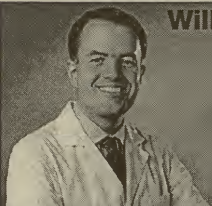
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GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

A Christmas curl

by Jim Provenzano

The gym was dead, to begin with. There is no doubt about that. What-ever! Dead as a doornail.

There it stood, years after closing, the sign on the gym. Yet Scroode never painted over the name. The machines long dusty from un-use, the showers dry as tile bones, it stood over the Castro like a solemn stone. All because Scroode wanted to make more money on selling the gym, so he had closed it down.

Nobody ever stopped him in the street to say, with gladsome looks, "My dear Scroode, how are your bench presses? When will you come to work out with me?"

For when a man burst forth with a "Merry Workout!" he replied "Bah! Humbug!"

And so he spent the holidays alone, having saddened so many with his selfishness.

It was on a lonely Christmas Eve that Scroode awoke in his painted lady mansion high atop a hill to the sound of free weights being dragged down his hallway. It was the ghost of his in-house personal trainer, Marley.

"I wear the chain I forged in life," moaned the Ghost. "I made it pump by pump, and rep by rep; I girded it on of my own free will, and of my own free will I wore its weight belt. Is its pattern strange to you?"

"No stranger than Cher's comeback," Scroode quipped.

Being a ghost, Marley had no humour, and smiled not. "You will be visited by three ghosts," he said before disappearing in a cloud of steam room vapour.

The Ghost of Workouts Past

When Scroode awoke, it was so dark, that looking out of bed, he could scarcely distinguish the transparent window from the opaque walls of his chamber. He realized that he was in a nether-world of his locker room, and upon hearing a hiss of running water, stepped into the shower room to see a form bathing.

Its hair, which hung about its neck and down its back, was white as if with age; and yet the face had not a wrinkle in it, and the tenderest bloom was on the skin. The arms were very long and muscular; the hands the same, as if its hold were of uncommon strength. Its legs and feet, most delicately formed, were, like those upper members, bare. It wore a tunic of the purest white, and round its waist was bound a lustrous belt, the sheen of which was beautiful.

"Who, and what are you?" Scroode demanded.

"I am the Ghost of Workouts Past."

"Long Past?" inquired Scroode: observant of its dwarfish stature.

"No. Your past. All of those muscles gained are lost because of your selfish ways. No one sees or touches your muscles because of your cruelty."

"You've been overdosing on Creatine!" Scroode shoed the ghost away. Thinking he was suffered from protein deficiency, he made a smoothie and went back

to bed.

Second set

waking in the middle of a prodigiously tough snore, and sitting up in bed to get his thoughts together, Scroode had no occasion to be told that the bell was again upon the stroke of One. He felt that he was restored to consciousness in the right nick of time, when another ghost visited him.

"Have you ever spotted me?" the ghost said. He was a burly man, bountifully busty.

Near him, heaped on the floor was an appetizing array of low-fat entrees, protein bars, skinless turkey sandwiches and bowlfuls of supplements.

"I don't think I have," said Scroode. "I am afraid I have not. Have you had many

brothers, Spirit?"

"More than eight hundred," said the Ghost. "Most in your steam room."

"A tremendous family to provide for," muttered Scroode.

The Ghost rose, his towel displaying a bountiful organ.

"Spirit," said Scroode submissively, "conduct me where you will. I went forth last night on compulsion, and I learnt a lesson which is working now. To-night, if you have aught to teach me, let me profit by it."

"Touch my towel."

Scroode was led through living rooms and bedrooms, where handsome lesbian and gay couples, and other combinations, were shown admiring their bodies, and having their fit, healthy bodies admired, in a variety of ways.

"Ah, pleasing."

"Yes, romances and friendships spun from the joy of physical culture, birthed at your business." The Spirit parted his towel. "But ..."

Scroode whined, "Oh, everybody's got a big but."

From the foldings of its towel, the spirit brought two children; wretched, abject, frightful, hideous, miserable. They knelt down at its feet, and clung upon the outside of its garment.

They were a boy and a girl. Yellow, meagre, ragged, scowling, wolfish; but prostrate, too, in their humility. Where graceful youth should have filled their features out, and touched them with its freshest tints, a stale and shrivelled hand, like that of age, had pinched, and twisted them, and pulled them into shreds.

Scroode started back, appalled. Having them shown to him in this way, he tried to say they were fine children, but the words choked themselves, rather than be parties to a lie of such enormous magnitude.

"Spirit, are they yours?"

Scroode could say no more.

"They are Man's," said the Spirit, looking down upon them. "And they cling to me, appealing from their fathers. This boy is Ignorance. This girl is Want. She is from Seattle. Beware them both, and all of their degree, but most of all beware this boy, for on his brow I see that written which is Doom, unless the writing be erased. Deny it!" cried the Spirit, stretching out its hand towards the city.

"Have they no refuge or resource?" cried Scroode.

"Perhaps," said the ghost. The



Dickensian dumbbells:
A well-built Victorian

Ghost only pointed to the clusters of homeless youth, left outside while politicians and property owners argued over how to best use the abandoned gym.

Scroode looked about him for the Ghost, and saw it not. As the last stroke ceased to vibrate, and lifting up his eyes, beheld a solemn Phantom, draped and hooded, coming, like a mist along the ground, toward him.

Last call

I am in the presence of the Ghost of Workouts Yet To Come?" said Scroode.

The Spirit answered not, but pointed downward with its hand.

"You are about to show me shadows of the workouts that have not happened, since I closed the gym," Scroode pursued. "Is that so, Spirit?"

The spirit only turned into a giant widescreen TV, and a horrifying array of home workout infomercials was played before Scroode's tearful eyes.

All through the land, from Castro onward, lonely, scrawny, untrained souls, never having entered a sports arena, scorned and ignored each other, smoking cigarettes and eating fried food.

"What has become of the jovial atmosphere, the odor of sweat and romantic anticipation, the cruisy gym? Am I its executioner?"

Scroode found himself at his own grave. It read: EBINEZER SCROODE: DIED OF ATROPHY.

Reeling with horror, Scroode raced through the town, but all he saw were chain gyms, with "No Gay-Acting Behaviour" signs.

End of it

aking from the horrid series of fibre-free nightmares, Scroode thrust open the shutters of his bedroom and spied a young teen heading off with a gym bag across his shoulder.

"What's to-day, my fine fellow?" said Scroode.

"To-day?" replied the boy.

"Why, Abs Day."

"Hooray, then I have not missed it," cried Scroode, who hastily threw on his sweat suit, ran down to jog around his neighborhood, offering half off memberships and letting the waifs of the street bathe and sleep in his spare rooms. His own heart laughed: and that was quite enough for him.

And then some kid named Tim called out, "God bless us, everyone!"

Scroode smiled. "Whatever, Gimpy." ▼

Navigating the city's rent control maze

by Ali Hall, AIDS Legal Referral Panel

The following is an occasional column compiled by the AIDS Legal Referral Panel on issues of concern to people living with AIDS.

Dear AIDS Legal Referral Panel:

I'm presently living in a two-bedroom apartment in San Francisco. I do not have a lease or a rental agreement with my landlord. I moved into my apartment about four years ago. My roommate has a rental agreement with the landlord, dating to before I moved in.

My roommate has recently decided to retire to Palm Beach, Florida, and he's already told the landlord. My landlord then told me that I could stay in the unit, even after my roommate leaves. However, I'm worried that he might raise my rent to market rate. I am living with disabling HIV. I live on a fixed, limited income and I can't afford a large rent hike. How can I keep my apartment under rent control?

Sincerely,
Stressed Subsequent Occupant

This question is not unusual, but the answer may be complicated.

Fortunately, San Francisco has a "rent ordinance," which protects most tenants from extreme rent increases. Generally these protections cover the original tenants who had agreements to live in the unit at the original rent. These protections may also cover subsequent occupants who move into the unit after the original tenants have an agreement with the landlord.



Staff and supporters of ALRP, including Executive Director Bill Hirsh, third from left, at a recent benefit.

A lot depends on when you moved into your apartment, because the laws have changed several times in the last few years. If you moved in before January 1, 1996, retaining rent control is not difficult. Your landlord can raise your rent if he served you with what is called a "6.14" notice and if he served you this notice within 60 days of "actually

knowing" of your residency in your unit. A 6.14 notice "reserves the landlord's rights" to raise your rent at a later date. Many things may indicate the landlord's "actual knowledge." Written proof of your landlord's knowledge is always best and this can include such things as cashed rent checks. However, you can also prove "actual knowledge" through non-written proof, such as personal interactions with the landlord. Non-written proof is more reliable if you can also back it up with details such as dates. Basically, this means if the landlord did not serve the 6.14 notice within 60 days after he knew you lived there, then he cannot raise your rent later.

Moving into your unit after January 1, 1996 complicates matters. Here, two scenarios are possible. Because the laws changed on April 25, 2000, your legal standing depends on when your roommate told your landlord he was moving. If you moved into your unit after January 1, 1996 and your roommate told the landlord he was moving out before April 25, 2000, retaining rent control is difficult. The landlord has no obligation to "reserve the right" to increase the rent after "actually knowing" of your presence. In this situation, the only way to retain rent control is if the landlord told you your rent would not increase when your roommate moved out. Otherwise, when your roommate moves out, you're just a new tenant for rent control purposes.

If your roommate told the landlord he was moving out on or after April 25, 2000, you have more options. You can still remain at your present rental rate if the landlord told you that the rent would not increase when your roommate moved out. You can also protect your rent control if your roommate gave written notice to your landlord explaining your intent to retain rent control

next page ►

Goodbye to Y2K

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ships between two people of the same sex should be legally recognized. The poll of 1,200 registered voters conducted by Washington, D.C.-based Decision Research was touted as evidence that while the campaign against the anti-gay Proposition 22 failed in March, it had succeeded in convincing voters of the inequities faced by same-sex couples.

The San Francisco **Transgender Civil Rights Implementation Task Force**, created by legislation sponsored by Supervisor Mark Leno, was convened for its first meeting at City Hall on June 1.

On June 27, Governor Gray Davis signed legislation sponsored by Assemblywoman Carole Migden (D-San Francisco) that bans the practice of excluding people from **jury duty** on the basis of their race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation.

A 26-year-old Seattle man, Jason Scott Kohlhofer, died of a **drug overdose** on June 23 in a private room at Berkeley's Steamworks, a gay bathhouse.

Almost 1 million people flocked to **San Francisco's 30th annual Pride Parade and Celebration** on June 24 and 25, as well as to associated events including the Dyke March, Pink Saturday,



Transgender task force co-chairs Dominique Leslie, left, and Marcus de Maria Arana.

and the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Film Festival.

UNAIDS, the umbrella AIDS organization of the United Nations, released its annual report on June 27. The death toll from the pandemic had climbed to **19 million in just two decades**, and in 1999, 5.4 million people became infected with HIV.

A three-member panel of the California Board of Prison Terms ordered **Robert Rosenkrantz**, imprisoned since being convicted of the 1985 shooting of a schoolmate, freed. The prisoner said he expected Governor Gray Davis to block his release again.

Governor Davis signed the state budget for fiscal year 2000-01 on June 30. The **\$99.4 billion measure** included a \$12.7 million

jump in funding for AIDS services and programs.

"The 900 number is not an official number ... the comparison to sub-Saharan Africa is unfortunate," Dr. Willi McFarland, an epidemiologist with the San Francisco Department of Public Health, said, referring to quotes he had fed to daily newspapers. McFarland and other health officials were working overtime trying to explain how they had arrived at their conclusion that the HIV infection rate in San Francisco had doubled, a story they bungled just prior to a key vote in Congress over AIDS funding for the city, and also just prior to the 13th International AIDS Conference in Durban, South Africa. ▼

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Holiday dinners

◀ page 3

the holiday with two very queer Christmas Eve services on December 24 at 150 Eureka Street at 7 p.m. and 11 p.m., then tops it all off with a Christmas Day dinner at the Diamond Senior Center, 117 Diamond Street, from noon to 2 p.m. on December 25. The meal is "a celebration of community and family" according to MCC-SF, and volunteers and donations are still needed. Call (415) 865-2749 for more information.

Finally, the **AIDS Emergency Fund** will also host a tradition of its own by preparing its 13th annual Christmas Eve dinner for people with AIDS. The dinner will be held on Sunday, December 24 in the Green Room at the War Memorial Veterans Building, 401 Van Ness Avenue, at McAllister Street, across from City Hall. Dinner

seatings are held at noon, 1:30 p.m., and 3 p.m.

This is a great chance for PWAs to dine among new and old comrades; the families and friends of PWAs are also invited to attend. Entertainment will be provided throughout the day and the event will be a "very special day of love and sharing, good friends, good food, good times, holiday cheer, and Santa Claus," according to AEF.

Those interested in having Christmas Eve dinner with AEF should pick up an invitation at Bay Area AIDS organizations: from the Gay American Indian AIDS Project and the Women's AIDS Network to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and Lyon Martin Health Services, the invites are relatively easy to find. The event still needs volunteers to help with setup on Saturday; those who would like to offer their services should call (415) 431-5914. ▼

Past Out

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rapher George Platt Lynes, playwright Tennessee Williams, and painter George Tooker, who for several years was Cadmus' lover.

After 1940, Cadmus worked primarily in the extremely demanding medium of egg tempera, a mixture of pigment, water, and egg yolk, which had been favored by the Renaissance masters he so admired. Although he consequently produced only two or three paintings a year, in a semi-allegorical style that came to be called "magic realism," these possessed a crisp and luminous density. Especially notable are Cadmus's 1940s beach paintings, which place contemplative young men in dreamlike settings, as well as several highly personal works from the 1950s, including *The Nap* (1952), showing a naked man alone on a bed in a cheap hotel room, and *Night in Bologna* (1957-1958), illustrating a triangle of mismatched desire.

In 1964, Cadmus met Jon Andersson, a singer and actor who became his life partner for the next 35 years. The young man inspired a number of beautiful paintings that explore the dynamics of this intergenerational relationship and served as model for a series of exquisite nude drawings.

The art world largely neglected Cadmus as it became obsessed in the 1950s with abstract expressionism. But in the 1990s, a renewed interest in figurative work and an emerging fascination with queer art led to a revival of interest in Cadmus, who received solo exhibitions at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Whitney Museum of American Art.

The painter remained active to the very end of his life. He died on December 12, 1999, just short of his 95th birthday, in the Connecticut home he and Andersson shared. ▼

Rawley Grau can be reached at GayNestor@aol.com. For more Past Out, visit planetout.com.

Lesbian Notions

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income and minority homeowners. Perhaps gearing up for a campaign, last summer Cuomo delivered a rousing address to the gay and lesbian caucus at the Democratic convention in Los Angeles, and in October, he personally presented a substantial HUD grant to New York City's Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center.

For many of us on the left, it's been painful to watch the party that gave us the New Deal and the

Great Society shift further to the right. We need to start organizing now to voice support for political leaders with the potential to mount a presidential race and to renew the progressive promise of the Democrats. ▼

Paula Martinac is the author of seven books, including *The Lesbian and Gay Book of Love and Marriage*. She can be reached care of this publication or at LNColum@aol.com. For more Lesbian Notions, visit www.planetout.com.

ALRP

◀ previous page

when he moves out. The landlord had 90 days from receiving this notification to reserve his right to increase your rent. Note that under the new laws, unlike the laws prior to 1996, tenants have the burden of informing landlords of their intent to maintain rent control.

Good luck. We all know it's a tight market out there. Knowing your rights under the San Francisco rent ordinance can help you survive in our fabulous city. If you have any questions concerning your rights as a tenant, contact ALRP at (415) 701-1200.

Since 1983, ALRP has provided free and low-cost legal services for people with HIV in the San Francisco Bay Area. ALRP pro-

vides direct services and referrals to HIV-sensitive panel attorneys. ALRP can assist you in a variety of matters, including credit and bankruptcy, insurance and employee benefits, wills and powers of attorney, landlord-tenant relations and housing issues, government benefits, employment, confidentiality, and establishing child guardianship. This article is not intended as legal advice for your specific situation. ▼

Visit us on the World Wide Web at <http://www.alrp.org>. Do you have any questions you'd like answered? E-mail Ali Hall, ALRP client advocate, at: ali@alrp.org; call us at (415) 701-1100 or (510) 451-5353; or write: 205 13th Street, Suite 2170, San Francisco, CA 94103-2461.

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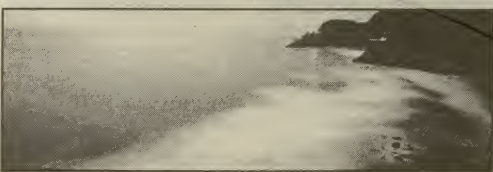
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Due to the upcoming
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will have slightly altered
deadlines. Please make a
note of the following:

Issue #52

Street Date: December 28th

ALL

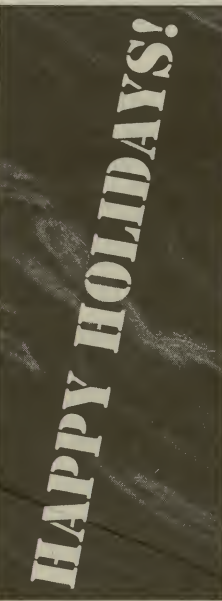
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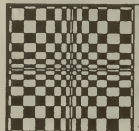
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LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 0225458-00

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Every Day's A Holiday. Located at 1835 Divisadero St. S.F., CA 94115. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: 9/9/98

This business was conducted by: a General Partnership Barbara Bentley, Byron Bentley, John B. McRae signed Byron Bentley Partner.
NOV. 30 DEC. 7, 14, 21, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 244538

The following person(s) are doing business as: Every Day's A Holiday 1835 Divisadero St. S.F. CA., 94115. This business is conducted by a Individual signed Byron Bentley The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 10/31/00. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10/30/00.
NOV. 30, DEC. 7, 14, 21, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 244997

The following person(s) are doing business as: Raging Stallion Studios, Inc. 49 Hartford St. SF., CA 94114. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Mark A. Para, Secretary. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, 5/19/00 The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/21/00
NOV. 30, DEC. 7, 14, 21, 2000

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 316816

In the Matter of the Application of Raphael Alexander Quintero. For Change of Name. The application of Raphael Alexander Quintero for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Raphael Alexander Quintero has filed an application proposing that his name be changed to Raphael Alexander Q. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 16th day of January 2000 at 9:00AM., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.
NOV 30 DEC 7, 14, 21, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 245235

The following person(s) are doing business as: Rob Scott. 1685 Plymouth Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94127. This business is conducted by an individual signed Robert M. Scott. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/06/00
DEC. 14, 21, 28, JAN. 4, 2000

STATEMENT FILE NO. 245457

The following person(s) are doing business as: Soma Leadership Council. 366 Tenth Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed James E. Meko. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/18/00
DEC. 21, 28, JAN. 4, 11, 2000

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Community Christmas Eve Celebration 7:00 & 11:00 pm
Candlelight & Holy Communion. Bring white socks and
disposable razors for a person in need if you are able.
Christmas Eve Social between the services open to all
8:30-10:30 pm

A House of Prayer for all People

Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church

100 Diamond Street at 18th St., SF 863-6259

Reverend Zachary J. Shore, Pastor

Sunday, December 24
Morning Liturgies 8:00 am & 10:00 am
Prelude Music 9:45 pm
Liturgy of Christmas 10:00 pm
December 25, Christmas Day Liturgies 8:00 & 10:00 am
Sunday, December 31, New Year's Eve 8:00 & 10:00 pm
New Year's Day Liturgies 8:00 am & 10:00 am

St. Andrews Spiritualist Church

at The Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco
150 Eureka Street, SF In the Chapel
The Reverend Vernon Link 415-239-2500
The Reverend Mary Rose Czajka 510-261-7881
Weekly Sunday Service (Healing at all services)

United in Spirit

A consortium of churches celebrating inclusive ministries
The Reverend Roger Ridgway, Coordinator 415-731-9333
St. John's United Church of Christ
Layout: Bill Catherwood, Church Administrator

St. Francis Lutheran Church

152 Church Street at Market, SF 415-621-2635
SfrancisSF@aol.com www.st-francis-lutheran.org

Free parking at Safeway

The Revs. Ruth Frost, Michael Hiller & Phyllis Zillhart

Carols 10:30 pm
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 11:00 pm
Christmas Day Service 11:00 am
New Year's Eve -Guest Preacher, Anita C. Hill 11:00 am
New Year's Eve 7:00 pm

Cathedral Hill

First Unitarian Universalist Congregation

1187 Franklin Street at Geary, SF
www.sfo.com/~uusf Email: uusf@sfo.com

Margot Campbell Gross & John N. Marsh, Co-Ministers

Hanukkah Service 10:00 am

Christmas Eve Services

Candlelight Early Service 4:45 pm
Candlelight Service of Thanksgiving & Music 8:00 pm
Christmas Eve Communion Service 10:00 pm
An Intentionally diverse, welcoming congregation

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

1111 O'Farrell Street, SF 415-928-7770

The Reverends Elizabeth Ekdale & Jan Womer, Co-Pastors

Christmas Eve Services:

Service of Carols, Holy Communion & Christmas Pageant 5:00 pm
Candlelight Choral Eucharist 11:00 pm
Christmas Day Festival Choral Eucharist 10:00 am
Ample Parking—Near Geary & Van Ness Bus Lines

Diamond Heights

St. Aidan's Episcopal Church

101 Gold Mine Drive, SF 415-285-9540
www.saintaidan.org

Christmas Eve Family Service 5:30 pm
Christmas Eve Choral Eucharist 10:30 pm
Christmas Day Holy Eucharist 10:10 am
December 31st, Lessons & Carol Singing 10:10 am
Come and Experience God's Inclusive Love

Haight-Ashbury

All Saints Episcopal Church

1350 Waller Street, SF (between Masonic & Ashbury Sts.)
415-621-1862 www.webmen.com/asp.htm

The Reverend Dr. Kenneth L. Schmidt, Rector

Sat., December 23, NEIGHBORHOOD CHRISTMAS PAGEANT 4:00 pm
Christmas Eve: THE FIRST CHRIST MASS 9:00 pm
CHRISTMAS DAY MASS 10:00 am
Glory to God and Peace on Earth Among ALL People

Mission

Episcopal Church of St. John the Evangelist

1661 Fifteenth Street at Julian 415-861-1436

(Two blocks from 16th & Mission BART Station)

Christmas Eve Service 11:00 pm
Christmas Day Service 11:00 am
*Diverse People, Inquiring Minds, Open Hearts
All are welcome!*

Noe Valley

Bethany United Methodist Church

1268 Sanchez @ Clipper, SF 415-647-8393
www.bethanysf.com bethanyumc@aol.com

Rcv. Karen Oliveto, Pastor

Christmas Eve:

A Service for the Child in All of Us 5:00 pm
Candles and Carols 11:00 pm
Christmas Day Service & Potluck Brunch 11:00 am

Come home to Bethany this holiday season!

Dolores Street Baptist Church

www.dsbchurch.org 415-826-2641

Rev. Doug Donley, Pastor

We now worship with Bethany Church on Clipper & Sanchez

Christmas Eve, Advent IV Service 11:00 am
A Service for the Child in All of Us 5:00 pm
Candles and Carols 11:00 pm
Christmas Day Service & Potluck Brunch 11:00 am
*We rejoice in a community committed to justice, prayer
and inclusion. Have a blessed Holiday Season*

Holy Innocents Episcopal Church

455 Fair Oaks Street, SF 415-824-5142

The Reverend Rosa Lee Harden, Vicar

Christmas Eve: Said Eucharist (Advent IV) 10:00 am
Choir Concert 10:30 pm
Festival Eucharist 11:00 pm
Christmas Day Choral Eucharist 10:00 am
A Safe Place to Be

Noe Valley Ministry Presbyterian Church

1021 Sanchez Street at 23rd Street

God's Inclusive Love Practiced Here

Sunday Worship 10:30 am
Christmas Meditations
Wednesdays, December 13, 20, 27 6:15 pm
Christmas Eve Services
Worship with Communion 10:30 am
Family Worship 7:00 pm
New Year's Eve Services
Singing Out the Old, In the New 10:30 am
Acknowledging the Old, Preparing for the New 7:00 pm

Pacific Heights

Calvary Presbyterian Church

2515 Fillmore at Jackson Street, SF 415-346-3832
www.calvarypresbyterian.org

Dr. Laird J. Stuart, Pastor;
Rev. Joanne Whitt, Associate Pastor
Dr. Hugh Burroughs, Interim Associate Pastor

Weekly Sunday Worship 8:45 am & 11:00 am
*Worship, Education, Community Service, Fellowship,
Music
A Welcoming Community*

Trinity Episcopal Church

1668 Bush at Gough 415-775-1117

Robert Warren Cromey, Rector

Christmas Eve 10:30 pm
Musical Program 11:00 pm
Choral Worship
Free parking 9 pm-1 am, (enter Post St. between Franklin & Van Ness)
Christmas Day
Worship Service 11:00 am
Holiday Dinner (Please reserve at 415/775-1117) Noon
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Potrero Hill

St. Gregory's Episcopal Church

500 DeHaro Street at Mariposa, SF 415-255-8100
www.saintgregorys.org

The Reverends Richard Fabian & Donald Schell, Rectors

Christmas Eve Pageant and Liturgy 6:00 pm
New Year's Eve Eucharist 6:30 pm
*Come sing and dance to Jesus' lead
Welcoming all people into God's friendship.*

Richmond

First United Lutheran Church

6555 Geary Boulevard. at 30th Ave. 415-751-8108

Email: fulc@earthlink.net http://home.earthlink.net/~fulc

Rev. Rodney Thomas, Pastor

Sunday, Dec. 24, "Mass of a United People" 10:00 am
Written by our own members
Christmas Eve Candlelight, Lessons & Carols & Eucharist 10:00 pm
*A creative, spiritual community celebrating the unique
and diverse gifts of all God's people*

Inner Richmond

St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church

2097 Turk St. at Lyon 415-567-1855

Http://www.mindspring.com/~stecyprianssf/

Sunday, Dec. 24, Advent 4, Holy Eucharist 10:30 am
Sunday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve
Carols and Solemn Mass of Christmas 9:00 pm
Monday, Dec. 25, Christmas Day, Holy Eucharist 11:00 am

Twin Peaks

St. John's United Church of Christ

501 Laguna Honda Blvd. at Woodside Ave., SF
415-731-9333 www.sfstjohnsucc.org

The Rev. Roger Ridgway, Pastor
Anna Kushnirov, Amazing Music Director

December 24, 4th Sunday in Advent-Joy, 10:00 am
Christmas Eve Service of Readings & Carols 7:00 pm
*A Progressive Christian Community
Active in the Interfaith Movement*

Union Square

First Congregational Church of San Francisco **United Church of Christ**

432 Mason Street at Post 415-392-7461
www.sanfranciscoucc.org Email: firstuccsf@aol.com

Sunday, December 24, 11 am
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 8 pm
God's inclusive love practiced here

'I, Bushius': the TV miniseries
Prersidential election 2000, with or
without poison, in 'The Lavender Tube.'

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Beautiful black bros.
Belasco's erotic 'Brothers
of New Essex' comix.

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Remembering Lenny
'Bernstein Live' from the
New York Philharmonic.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 30 • No. 51 • 21 December 2000

Portrait of the artist as an undesirable

Javier Bardem, left, and Johnny Depp
star in *Before Night Falls*

Life of Reinaldo Arenas in Julian Schnabel's 'Before Night Falls'

by Will Shank

Javier Bardem is a big man who, as Reinaldo Arenas, seems uncomfortable in his own large, sexy frame; he often hunches, appearing to wish to be smaller, or less conspicuous, than he really is. The body language is just one of the brilliant touches that the straight Spanish actor brings to his portrayal of the gay Cuban writer in director Julian Schnabel's *Before Night Falls*, opening Friday in San Francisco.

Familiar to aficionados of Pedro Almodóvar and other contemporary Spanish directors, Bardem is a much sought-after actor. In 1992's *Jamón Jamón*, he performed a memorable nighttime *corrida de toros* in the nude. He was the paraplegic ex-cop in Almodóvar's *Live Flesh*, and the straight guy doing gay phone porn in *Boca a Boca*, a role for which he won the Best Actor Goya in 1996. Bringing Arenas to cinematic life may be his greatest accomplishment to date, however, and it is the only time he has portrayed an historical individual. If Bardem's character is occasionally limp-wristed, he is anything but a cliché. He has learned to use his gayness to his advantage, whether it is to further his career, to stay alive in prison, or to exit the oppression of Castro's Cuba for good.

The story of Arenas was made for the screen, since his colorful circumstances out-

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Daniel Daza

Underwater divas visit the Castro Theatre

Who will survive to reach
the top— or bottom—
of the SS Poseidon?

by Will Shank

Every time I see it, I feel wet," Carol Lynley told me by phone from her Malibu home overlooking the cold, wet Pacific. We were talking about *The Poseidon Adventure*, in which she had a role.

Did they keep you warm at least?

"No. We shot in sequence, with the first two weeks right-side-up on the Queen Mary. Then we spent three-and-a-half months upside-down on the lot, cold and wet."

Lynley will appear with co-star Stella Stevens in person at the Castro Theater for a Marc Huestis underwater extravaganza appropriate to the upcoming New Year's Eve celebration: the fictional flipping of the ocean liner takes place on New Year's Eve in the 1972 Irwin Allen epic. The actual cinematic event takes place next Thursday, December 28. It is Lynley's second time on stage at the Castro with *The Poseidon Adventure*.

The actress, a New York native who was al-

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Carol Lynley, left, and
Stella Stevens recreate a
scene from *The Poseidon
Adventure* at a 1996 LA event.

SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS

by Roberto Friedman
and the Boy Racer

Our gut reaction after the Republican coup d'état last week was to run pell mell for our lives. We suddenly felt endangered, being a minority person ourselves in all the ways that matter. So we did, got the hell out of Dodge, sped up 101 and didn't stop until we hauled up miles away at the Harbor House Inn in

tiny Elk, California.

There on the Mendocino coast we holed up with guy **Pepi** in the lodge's Cypress Room, enjoyed a barrel-select bottle of California wine, a spectacular sea view and a roaring fire. No phones, no fax, no e-mail, no instant message and, most importantly, no TV. We had a radio, however, so admit we did listen to the historic if soporific **Gore** and **Shrub** speeches. We would have liked the Gore speech more if he had a) worked in the

words "sublimable," "lockbox" and "snippy" or b) been giving the victory speech.

The Shrub speech made us nauseous, and could only have been welcome to hear if he had been honest and acknowledged that he lost the popular vote, any innocence he might have once possessed, and — let's be real — Florida, too.

What a week it was, to learn that both the system of democracy in these United States, and the Democratic machine in SF, both supposedly fail-safe institutions, are very fallible after all.

Touched by a supervisor

Yes, those rumors afoot are two. The gay **Supervisor Elect** not ever confused with late-night TV show host **David Letterman** — the same supe who just squeaked by in his reelection to the Board — is definitely having an affair with that cute-ass star of TV's *Touched by an Angel*. The snogging male couple is reportedly in a hot-and-heavy phase, as evidenced by all the shuttling back and forth one or the other is always doing from SF to our sluttier sister city to the south.

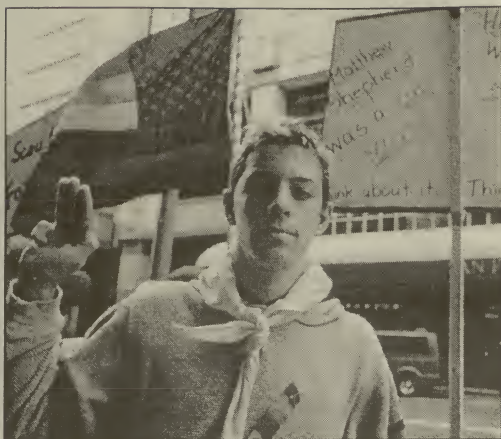
Dept. of oops

The wrong phone number for tickets to Kung Pao Kosher Comedy 2000 ran in the Backstage column last week. The correct phone number is (415) 522-3737. The show features comedians **Marc Maron**, **Lisa Geduldig**, **Page Hurwitz** and **Brian Malow**.

Bus-ted

No sooner had Out There's boulevardier friend tried to board a crowded 30 Stockton bus going uptown the other day when the MUNI operator stood up, barred the door physically with his arm, and declaimed, "Take the next bus!" in his undistinguished high tenor.

This is only noteworthy because in his civilian life, this very same by-the-books MUNI driver is none other than the spotlight-grabbing **Flower Thrower**, whose incessant flinging of wilted foliage is forever up-staging deserved curtain calls during opera season



Steven Cozza gives the "Scout's Honor" sign at a San Francisco demo.

at the War Memorial. OT says to Miss Organic Ovation: Save the histrionics for those unwelcome irritations with your rude bouquets of cheap weeds, and let us poor MUNI riders on the bus.

Ready in a pinch

Inquiring minds want to know and keep calling the OT desk to ask: Is it true that **Chron** critic **Edward Guthmann** is

signed on to understudy for star **Kathleen Turner** in the upcoming production of *Tallulah?* Guthmann is of course well-known for his own version of the Bankhead saga, in a legendary production in the Castro noodle joint that used to be called Josie's.

Film reels

Two local independent documentary filmmakers, **David Weissman** and **Bill Weber**, have good news to report, namely a whopping \$100,000 contribution by an individual donor towards the completion of their much-anticipated film, *The Cockettes*. SF software strategist **Roger Klorese** has pledged the hundred thou to the project, which is currently in postproduction and looking to be finished by early summer.

Klorese is now on board as a co-producer; says Weissman, producer and co-director, "Roger

shares Bill's and my enthusiasm for the unique blend of '60s counterculture, '70s sexual liberation, and sheer fun that the Cockette story embodies."

Weissman and Weber have been at work on this feature-length documentary for over 2 and a half years. Now it looks like *The Cockettes* will finally be a-borning.

In other local filmie news, SF filmmaker **Tom Shepard's** *Scout's Honor* will be screened in the Documentary Competition at the 2001 Sundance Film Festival. *Scout's Honor* traces the conflict between the anti-gay policies of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) and the broad-based movement by many of its members to overturn them. The story is told predominantly through the experiences of 13-year old **Steven Cozza** (now 16) and 70-year-old **Dave Rice** — both heterosexual, both dedicated to the Scouts, and both determined to change the course of Scouting history.

Along the way, we meet gay Scouts and Scoutmasters whose painful stories of expulsion earned national attention, including **James Dale**, whose case against the BSA reached the United States Supreme Court last summer. We also meet **Tim Curran**, who came out as a gay scout and waged a 17-year battle which ended with a decision by the California Supreme Court in 1998 in favor of the BSA. ▼

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"Every sha-la-la-la still shines! Hilarious! SF Weekly

"Guthorn's impersonation brings goosebumps to the flesh!" SF Chronicle

Tom Ross & Morey Goldstein's

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Carpenter
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Barbara Cook
sings "mostly Sondheim" with Wally Harper

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MUSIC

Barbara Cook is back for good

Brings 'Mostly Sondheim' to San Francisco

by Richard Dodds

Once Barbara Cook enters the world of a song, she hates to leave it.

"At the end of the song," the celebrated singer said, "there's a moment where I really don't want to come back because it feels so good to be inside it. When you're inside it, there are no problems, there are no worries."

Cook describes the experience as a "very pleasant meditative state," even when the song is a heartbreaker, and she finds that staying involved in a song is the best way to keep the experience vibrant for both herself and her audience. "I learned that while doing very long runs," said the star of the original Broadway productions of *The Music Man* and *She Loves Me*.

But for the past 25 years, even since the legendary concert at Carnegie Hall that relaunched her career, Cook has been found mostly in concert halls and cabarets. All that happened before that "was another life," Cook said. "I was another human being."

At 73, Cook is earning some of the best reviews of her career, most recently for a Sondheim-inspired show that she debuted in October at a New York nightclub. Cook will perform an expanded version of that show, titled *Mostly Sondheim*, at the Geary Theater for four performances beginning Dec. 29. She will be joined by her longtime arranger and accompanist, Wally Harper, in her first Bay Area appearance in five years.

"The show is based on a list Stephen Sondheim made for his 70th birthday of songs that he wishes he had written," Cook said. "I was fascinated by the list, and Wally somehow got the idea of our doing songs from that list and, of course, a number of Sondheim songs as well."

The non-Sondheim songs that will get the Cook treatment range from such standards as Irving Berlin's "I Got Lost in His Arms" and Harold Arlen's "I Had Myself a True Love" to such old-fashioned crowd-pleasers as "Waiting for the Robert E. Lee" and "Hard-Hearted Hannah."

As for the Sondheim songs, Cook largely depended on her existing repertoire. "We had to do this very quickly," she said, "so obviously I included some songs I already knew. I had done a workshop for a new revue of his songs that didn't work out, but as part of it I had worked on the song 'Happiness' from *Passion*. And there's another song from *Passion* called 'Loving You' that I love so much, so I included those two. And we needed something to open with, so I came up with the idea of doing 'Everybody Says Don't,' which took me forever to learn. The words come so quickly that if you have to think about them, they're gone."

Triumphant return

San Francisco audiences will be getting a preview look at the Feb. 2 concert Cook is preparing for Carnegie Hall, the site of her triumphant 1975 return to performing after several years' absence. If she sounded better than ever, Cook didn't look the same.



Barbara Cook: a voice richer and more emotionally charged.

The former ingenue had gained more than 100 pounds.

"I didn't know what to do about my weight, and I wanted to work," she said. "And if you're fat and you want to work, you're fat when you work."

Cook vividly remembered one of her first television appearances after coming out of the closet as a fat person. "I did *The Mike Douglas Show* almost immediately after the Carnegie Hall concert, and I was very angry because they pulled something I hated at the time. I was just about to go on, and I was looking at the monitor, and they did a split-screen thing of me weighing 106 pounds and me weighing 206 or whatever it was, which was pretty awful. I felt I was being treated like a freak."

Even so, critics and audiences noticed a voice that was richer and more emotionally charged. Wherever it came from, Cook said it was not about being liberated from a constant concern about weight. "John Wilson, a reviewer for the *New York Times*, sort of invented that," she said. "He even wrote that I had said I always felt that inside my slim body was a fat person trying to get out. Well, that's just total bullshit."

"You know what's liberating? Getting older is liberating," she continued. "You get to the point where you say okay, I've done all the work on myself that I think I'm going to do, and this is it. You have to accept the fact that there are certain things that are just bloody not going to change. This is it, folks."

With weight gain came a sizable gay following, perhaps out of identification with this physical social taboo that she turned inside out. It comes from that "I am what I am" quality. "Yeah, there's a helluva lot of that in my work," Cook said, "a sense that a person had gotten through something and they're strong but vulnerable at

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Poseidon

◀ page 29

ready a star on Broadway with her face on *Life* magazine when Walt Disney chose her to star in *A Light in the Forest* in 1958, lived back and forth between coasts until about eight years ago, when she became a Californian for good. "I liked Mr. Disney very much, but I never worked with him again." She did, however, undertake an impressive career of leading lady roles, including the bizarre experience of being one of two blondes (the other was Carroll Baker) who portrayed Jean Harlow on film in 1965.

What work is she most proud of? "I don't watch my own work. I've made 52 movies, and if I stayed home and watched my own stuff all the time, I'd be a very boring person. But *Bunny Lake Is Missing* is just an excellent movie and holds up very well. I was lucky to work with Otto Preminger twice [also in *The Cardinal*], and seeing it I can say, 'Yes, I did something.'"

Booting up

What about the myth of her wardrobe in *Poseidon*? It's true, Lynley tells me, that she was originally supposed to be in an evening gown, but she eventually



Ernest Borgnine and Stella Stevens in 1972's *The Poseidon Adventure*

spent the four months of shooting in hot pants. "I had many hot pants, because they shrank. So I was forever in wardrobe being fitted for hot pants. Those boots that I wore were actually my boots, and

at the end they had to be cut open in the back, because they shrank. They had a very secure bottom. It's an old dancers' trick; you want to hang onto whatever shoes you feel secure in. The set was wet all the time, and there was a danger of slipping."

The evening gown? "I still have it, and it's a beauty. In fact, I wore it to the Castro the last time. Paul Zastupnevich did the clothes, and he had worked on a lot of Irwin's movies. He is no longer with us. I didn't know he was ill and dying, and he kept giving me things. One day he gave me this beaded dress, and he said, 'I made it for you to wear, and they decided to go in another direction.' I'm going to do a silent auction on it in San Francisco. But I'm not wearing that; I'm wearing a silver satin 1930s Deco dress. I'm busy working out as we speak."

I find it remarkable that she's the same size as she was in 1972. "I don't think of it as remarkable, but I guess it is."

What for her is remarkable about the *Poseidon* experience? "The movie has a life of its own. People tell me stories about *Poseidon*, and I go, 'What? Who do you think you're talking to? I was there!' It's got its own rumor mill. I ran into Red [Buttons] a couple of months ago, and he said, 'Did you ever think this would happen in a million years?' Someone recently asked me if it was true that I bore Red's love child during the filming of *Poseidon*! And I looked at the guy, and my eyes widened a little bit, and I said, 'No!' And he said, 'Are you sure?'"

"Recently a very professional Fox producer who was working on the upcoming New Year's TV

special about *Poseidon* told me the story about somebody at the Fox Channel who said they had visited a bathroom set with all the Fox executives, and the set turned over and it rained all of the drek on the executives. And I said, 'What? The sets didn't just flip. They were either right side up or upside down. They didn't revolve! There's a whole sort of subculture to this!'"

Even Stevens

Stella Stevens concurs. "After more than 30 years, it is even more popular than ever." Stevens, who has previously appeared at the Castro in conjunction with a screening of Jerry Lewis' *The Nutty Professor*, is looking forward to sharing the stage with Lynley. They have paired before for *Poseidon* revivals and have found audiences uniformly enthusiastic. "A man who had seen *Titanic* but who had not seen *Poseidon* said that he liked the earlier film better because there were so many more people to root for!"

The outspoken Stevens, whose website (www.stellastevens.com) reflects her flashy self-promotion as a glamorous 64-year-old, with some downright naughty photographs, is a talker. She made history as a candidate for president in 1972, running on a free-love and legalized marijuana platform.

As we discussed *The Poseidon Adventure* over the phone, our conversation ranged from her opinion of critics ("A rattlesnake telling an eagle how to fly") to her views on assisted suicide ("We do it for our pets, but won't do it for our parents or our loved ones.") Her Mississippi roots have been well hidden since she tuned in to the culture of words and discov-

ered drama at the University of Memphis in the 1950s. Taking a week off from her job as a junior model at the tea room of a Memphis department store, she met Fox executives in New York, and as they say, the rest is history. "But not a peaceful history," Stevens notes, "and it remains a struggle."

Nevertheless, as an actress under contract first to Fox, then Columbia, then Paramount, she worked consistently in Hollywood, and she is still in demand on the large and small screen, portraying a wide variety of lusty ladies. She asked me not to put in print her comments on the sex lives of her leading men, from Elvis Presley to Jerry Lewis, because "I'm not into gossip or sleaze. The reason that I'm working today and have survived in the industry is that I have been quiet about any kind of affairs that I've had and the men I've been involved with. I don't want to cash in on that. I've cashed in on my talent." World-class directors from Vincente Minnelli to Sam Peckinpah sought her out, and in recent years she has turned to directing and writing herself.

Although she lives in Beverly Hills ("I'm a Beverly Hills 90210 girl. Somebody has to live here!"), she is a country gal at heart, "crazy about wildlife and walks in the woods... seclusion." The choice of PAWS (Pets Are Wonderful Support) as the charity for the Castro event is an apt one for Stevens, an animal lover and the owner of three horses and two cats. One of the cats had just terrorized to death a small finch before our phone call, causing the actress no small amount of distress. "I like animals better than people, mostly. There are only special people I can stand to be around for so long. I'm lost in life without pets, and I must have them around."

Cheap shots

As Linda Rogo, the sexy wife of Ernest Borgnine, Stevens stole the show from the ensemble cast of Oscar winners, including Borgnine, Shelley Winters and Gene Hackman. "It was a once in a lifetime experience. But we had no idea that we were making a classic! It is not a flawless film, because it was made so cheaply. They said it cost under \$6 million, but it was actually \$5 million for 14 weeks of shooting."

Do the cost-cutting measures show? Not in the scene in which Stevens, as Linda, takes a dive, but she is obviously played by a stunt double. I had always thought it was a man. "No, actually it was a girl named Rodelle Henshaw, who is my size and exactly my shape. She has large hooters and great legs and was a skydiver. She wasn't a stuntwoman, but she was cast because of her skydiving experience."

What else does she remember about making the film? "If there was smoke or dirt or fire, it was all real and there on the set. All of the modern innovations like CGIs [computer-generated images] are just to me poppycock."

"I was sent a Polaroid picture from some people in New York City who had a *Poseidon Adventure* costume party. It was two guys wrapped in foil from head to toe, and they came as Linda Rogo's suppositories. But, you know, it is all in wonderful good fun."

"Will there be Linda Rogos at the Castro?" she asks me. "I hope so!"

No problem, Stella. ▼

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In a Hong Kong sort of mood

Ang Lee's 'Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon' opens

by Gary Morris

Director Ang Lee would not be an obvious first choice to direct a Hong Kong martial arts film, even at a time when the genre is practically dead and thus ripe for resurrection by a highly regarded craftsman like Lee. His previous films — *Sense and Sensibility* and *The Ice Storm* are two — are careful, thoughtful works, but also slow and stately to the point of torpor, traits that seem inimical to the whole HK aesthetic as seen in the work of megastars like Jackie Chan and Jet Li; producers and directors like Tsui Hark and John Woo; and films that cover a vast range of styles from the gender-bending histrionics of the *Swordsman* series (starring the queen of HK androgyny, Brigitte Lin) to the homoerotic bloodbaths of Woo (*Hard-Boiled*, *The Killer*) to the sweet everyman epics of Jackie Chan.

Lee's new film, *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*, opening Friday in the Bay Area, is being marketed as both a loving homage and a redemption of the alleged excesses of the HK martial arts movie, a questionable exercise, given that excess — in the larger-than-life characters, stylized violence, and dazzling shifts of tone — is a primary lure of these films. In Lee's words, "People tend to look down on the genre. Some may have thought it strange that I could just drop what I normally do and make something like a B-movie. And as I was doing it, there was no escape. I had to bring in drama, I had to bring in women, I had to bring in beauty and whatever I feel added quality to it. It became an Ang Lee movie."

The good news is that the attitude behind such patronizing statements — drama, women, and beauty are hardly rare in HK films — is only partly in evidence in this "Ang Lee movie," in the film's tedious, cliché-ridden romantic sequences. When Lee (or was it a gifted second-unit director?) focuses on the martial-arts sequences, the effect is breathtaking indeed, and deserving of all the accolades the film is receiving.

Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon is based on a pre-World War II novel about characters who (in spite of Lee's protests of originality) will be quite familiar to fans of HK's Golden Age films. Li Mu Bai (Chow Yun Fat) is a legendary martial artist whose attempts to find enlightenment have left him disillusioned. He gives away his famous sword, the Green Destiny, to signal a move into a new, nonviolent life. His courier is Yu Shu Lien (Michelle Yeoh), another well-known fighter who's been pining away for him for years. Shu Lien becomes friendly with the aristocratic young Jen Yu (Zhang Ziyi), who is secretly a superior swordswoman, the lover of the desert bandit Lo (Chang Chen), and a disciple of the vicious middle-aged female criminal Jade Fox (Cheng Pei Pei). From this setup, the film details the theft of the Green Destiny, the romantic and political intrigues that ensue, and the major characters' life quests: Jen for love and power, Li Mu Bai for peace, Shu Lien for Li Mu Bai, Jade Fox for revenge against all men, and Lo for Jen.

Desert affair

The film has a muted, elegant

look that works in its favor to transport the viewer to its setting of ancient China, meticulously recreated. But this rich pictorialism has a downside: Lee seems to be so in love with his compositions and conceits that the film slows to a crawl in some sequences. A particular offender in this regard is a seemingly endless diversion in the desert, where the love affair between Lo the bandit and Jen the captured lady begins. Lee exploits the bleak beauty of this setting (shot in the Gobi desert and the Taklamakan Plateau north of Tibet), but eventually loses the viewer in the interminable love scenes.

More successful — indeed, the film's major draw — are the stunningly executed fight scenes. No expense was spared in rendering these magical sequences, with characters scampering up buildings, bounding across roofs, and flying through treetops. Unlike some HK films where the viewer gets lost in a battle (not necessarily

ily a bad thing), *Crouching Tiger* keeps all the details clear, giving full play to these skilled players' leaps and thrusts, and always including a high-angle shot for context. There's a mix of the fantastic and the visceral in these scenes that should satisfy fans of both styles. Michelle Yeoh executes her typical stunningly economical moves, while middle-aged Cheng Pei Pei is her opposite, relying more on brute strength and sheer bravado to conquer her enemies. Most impressive is Zhang Ziyi, a marvel at only 19 (when the film was shot two years ago). Her dazzling gymnastics put her immediately in the company of legendary predecessors in the field like Angela Mao Ying.

Crouching Tiger hedges its bets by featuring Chow Yun Fat and Michelle Yeoh, icons of the golden age of HK cinema. But their characters are probably the least interesting in the film. Chow's Li Mu Bai never transcends the for-

next page ►



Zhang Ziyi as Jen in *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*

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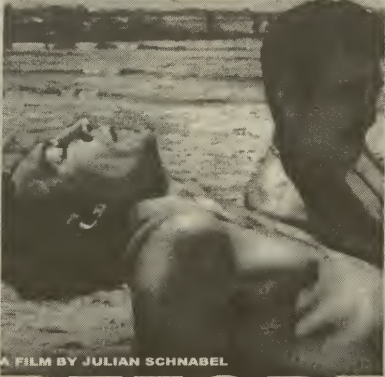
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Street Date: December 28th

All Classified/Personals/Display ads:

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DECEMBER 22nd AT 12:00 PM.

Issue #01

Street Date: January 4th

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Additionally, The BAY AREA REPORTER offices will be closed on December 25th, 2000 and January 1, 2001.

Filming 'Forrester'

Interview with Sean Connery and director Gus Van Sant

by Tim Nasson

High-school dropout. Former bodybuilder and model. The original James Bond. Indiana Jones' father. Star of over 60 films, Academy Award-winner for *The Untouchables*, and 70-year-old Scottish Sir. Yes, he's Sir Thomas Sean Connery to us now.

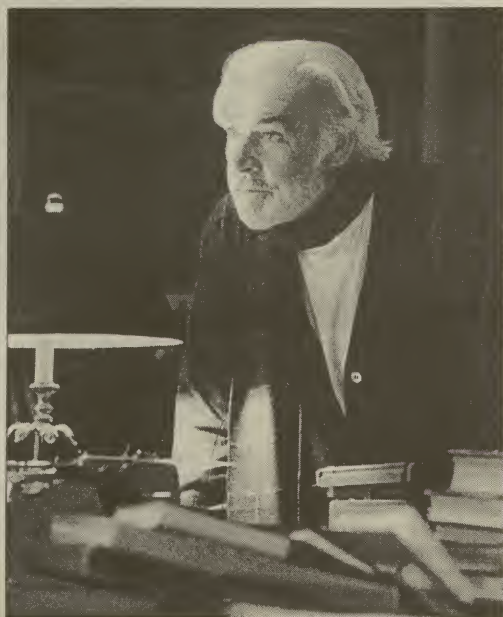
Talk among those in Hollywood who are waging early bets on the upcoming Academy Awards is that Connery, who was knighted by the Queen Elizabeth last January, will be nominated for his performance in the new Gus

Van Sant film, *Finding Forrester*, as what he describes as "the eccentric recluse, J.D. Salingeresque" title character.

"I had some input with the rewrite of the script," says Sir Sean, who is also one of the film's producers, in his Scottish brogue. "I wanted my character to be a bit more eccentric than he was in the original script. And I didn't want race to be an issue with the film."

Finding Forrester begins with Connery living in a black neighborhood which has grown up around him over many years, sitting in his living-room window, staring down at a basketball court full of black high school kids. He is known to them as "the window," since he is always peeking from behind a curtain with binoculars to watch their every move. When Jamal (Rob Brown), one of the kids who has just been recruited by an elite Manhattan prep school for his brilliance on and off the basketball court, sneaks into the window's apartment one night on a dare, and accidentally leaves behind his backpack full of writings, they both get something unexpected in return.

"Compelled to look past skin color and suppositions, Jamal encounters his first fan and a mentor who will challenge and change him forever. And Forrester has his



Sean Connery, left, and Robert Brown in *Finding Forrester*

nominated for Best Director for *Good Will Hunting*, and perhaps has a chance at a second nomination with *Forrester*. He is known best for his gritty, documentary-style films.

"Everyone who worked on *Good Will Hunting* was surprised at how commercially successful it was. [It made more than \$130 million at the US box office alone.] At the time, Matt Damon and Ben Affleck were no names at the box office, and I hadn't directed anything that grossed more than a few million dollars."

Ironically, the only Van Sant film before *Hunting* that made any noticeable dent at the box office was *To Die For*, which starred Nicole Kidman and was based on the Pamela Smart story, and was written by Salinger's former lover Joyce Maynard. Other Van Sant films include *Drugstore Cowboy*, *My Own Private Idaho*, *Even Cowgirls Get the Blues* ("which I hear they show a lot at lesbian bars throughout the world," he says), and the carbon-copy remake of *Psycho*, which "I am not embarrassed about having made two years ago."

Cut to the chase

Connery is glad to finally be in a film where he can play someone his own age. "It's one of the few films I have been in where I am not running around chasing or being chased by someone," he says, laughing.

The biggest task with *Forrester* was the casting of Jamal. The filmmakers needed to find a 16-year-old black boy who could project intelligence, play basketball and be

able to hold his own in scenes opposite Connery.

Rob Brown, who had no acting experience before *Forrester*, appeared out of nowhere after a nationwide search in which thousands of would-be actors and real actors were auditioned. "My biggest fear was having to play opposite Bustah Rhymes," Brown says of the singer who plays his older brother in the film.

"He was not concerned at all, nor did he have any difficulty carrying his own weight, playing opposite Connery. In [Brown's] world, Bustah is the man," says producer Lawrence Mark. "So of course he was more nervous working with him than Sean Connery. He grew up on Bustah's music."

Van Sant decided to use his "Will Hunting," Matt Damon, in a cameo towards the very end of *Forrester*. "The idea of using Matt was to take a breather from the film," he says. "Using him clears the air and sets up the new tone it needs right at that point. Audiences can look and say, 'Wow. There's Matt,' and allow themselves to get ready for what is about to happen next."

While there is no other feature-length film on Van Sant's agenda at the moment, he will probably continue to make short films and direct music videos. His eclectic array of clients includes David Bowie, Elton John, and Hanson, whose *Weird* video was one of 1998's most requested on MTV. ▼

**Finding Forrester opens
December 25 in San Francisco.**

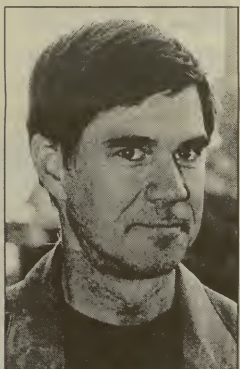
Crouching Tiger

◀ previous page

muliaic dispirited hero wandering pathetically through a world he doesn't feel part of. The glorious Michelle Yeoh is mostly decorative, full of winsome glances and stony stares, but finally unaffected. The film ultimately belongs to Zhang Ziyi, brilliant as the schizoid Jen, and, in her unfortunately limited screen-time, to

Cheng Pei Pei as Jade Fox. The latter, a veteran of 1970s and '80s HK martial arts films, is far from the smooth, sleek young heroines of many HK movies. With her hefty figure, ravaged face, and palpable desperation as she feels Jen slipping from her grasp, she gives the film an unexpected poignancy and power. ▼

Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon opens Friday.



Director Gus Van Sant

first reason in years to emerge from his self-imposed solitude," Connery reflects. "It's just fantastic, the idea of an aging, cranky character becoming the mentor and friend of a young boy, a black teenager."

Mentor room

Comparisons between Connery's Forrester and the reclusive Salinger are slight in relation to the lines that will be drawn between Van Sant's *Good Will Hunting* and his latest film. "I'm not too concerned," says Van Sant, "about what comparisons people are going to make between [them]. Yes, they both deal with high-school-age boys who are somewhat in a bind, and who find older men to mentor them, but they couldn't be more different films."

"The funny thing," he adds, "is that both scripts appeared out of nowhere and were by first-time writers. They both had unique settings, and that's why I chose to direct both of them. I find *Forrester* to be a logical progression from and natural extension of *Good Will Hunting*."

Van Sant, 48, openly gay and somewhat unusual (greased-down hair; not very talkative until he gets to know you, it seems; and not a very spiffy dresser), was

Gentility and strength

The career of actress Olivia de Havilland

by Tavo Amador

It's easier playing ruthless women than kind ones. The former win awards, while the latter are forgotten. But Olivia de Havilland is a great exception to that rule. Best remembered as dulcet Melanie in 1939's *Gone With the Wind* (playing the Castro Theater on Wednesday, December 27), her work is characterized by refinement, incisiveness, independence, and warmth. Beautiful when young and handsome in maturity, she wasn't just another pretty face. No matter how nice her character, she showed the complexity hidden by good manners; as the occasional villainess, she was delicious. In a 50-year career, de Havilland capitalized on good material and did wonders with poor scripts, a claim few stars can make. In real life, she sued Warner Bros. when they extended her contract to cover time spent on suspension. She won, showing the strength behind her good breeding. Today's stars earning millions per film owe her much.

Olivia Mary de Havilland was born in Tokyo in 1916, to upper-class British parents. Sister Joan Fontaine followed a year later. While the girls were young, their parents divorced. Mother and daughters moved to Saratoga, California. While attending Mills College, Olivia was hired by famed director Max Reinhardt to understudy Hermia in his stage production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (1935). On opening night, she replaced the star, then repeated the role in his film. (James Cagney was Bottom, Mickey Rooney, Puck.)

Warners contracted her for seven years, rushing her into *The Irish in Us*, *Alibi* Ike, and *Captain Blood*, all 1935. The last was the first of seven with Errol Flynn. The following year she charmed Frederic March's *Anthony Adverse* and joined Flynn for *The Charge of the Light Brigade*. In 1937, she made *Call It a Day*, *It's Love I'm After* (her first with lifetime friend Bette Davis), and *The Great Garrick*. The next year she was memorable as Maid Marian opposite Flynn in *The Adventures of Robin Hood*, a movie that remains fresh and enchanting, capturing de Havilland's rare combination of beauty and resourcefulness. Routine fare followed: *Gold Is Where You Find It*, *Four's a Crowd*, and *Hard To Get*. In 1939, she got *Wings of the Navy*, spent *A Day in Santa Anita*, met Flynn in *Dodge City*, and was Davis's radiant rival for him in *Elizabeth and Essex*.

On Cukor's side

Before finding his Scarlett O'Hara, producer David Selznick borrowed de Havilland for Melanie. Like Vivien Leigh, she proved an inspired choice. Six decades later, it's clear de Havilland's talent makes the character believable, supporting Margaret Mitchell's insistence that Melanie is the novel's heroine. The scene when she spies Leslie Howard returning from the war is a marvel. (She and Leigh vehemently protested Selznick's replacing gay director George Cukor with Victor Fleming, reportedly at Clark Gable's insistence. Nonetheless, both actresses secretly rehearsed with Cukor throughout filming.) She earned a Best Supporting Actress Oscar nomination, losing to



Olivia de Havilland as Lady Penelope Gray in *The Private Lives of Elizabeth and Essex*

co-star Hattie McDaniel.

She glowed opposite David Niven's *Raffles*, made *My Love Came Back*, and rode the *Santa Fe Trail* with Flynn (all 1940). In 1941, she and Flynn starred in *They Died with their Boots On*; better roles followed: she was superb competing for Cagney with Rita Hayworth's *The Strawberry Blonde*, and moving in love with Charles Boyer in *Hold Back the Dawn*. The latter brought a Best Actress nomination, but she lost to sister Fontaine in *Suspicion*.

Next year she suffered abuse from Davis in *This Our Life*, then realized Henry Fonda was *The Male Animal*; in 1943, she played herself in *Thank Your Lucky Stars*, then was *Princess O'Rourke* and a *Government Girl*, ending her contract. Or so she thought. The studio disagreed, and the court battle kept her off-screen for three years; she toured the country selling war bonds. After she prevailed, Warners released a dim biography of the Brontës, *Devotion* (1946), which had been filmed years earlier. She played Charlotte. She was *The Well-Groomed Bride*, splendidly played good and bad twins in a fine thriller, *The Dark Mirror*, then had a smash with *To Each His Own*, winning the Best Actress Oscar for her out-of-wedlock mother, a restrained portrayal.

In 1948, she stunned audiences with her harrowing portrait of insanity in *The Snake Pit*, earning the New York Film Critics Award, but losing the Oscar to Jane Wyman's *Johnny Belinda*. Her Catherine Sloper in *The Heiress* (1949), from Henry James' *Washington Square*, garnered another Best Actress Oscar and New York Film Critics prize. Realizing her suitor (Montgomery Clift) is a fortune-hunter and recalling her harsh father, she says, "Yes, I can be cruel. I have been taught by masters" — simultaneously chilling and heartbreaking.

Broadway bound

At her peak, de Havilland left Hollywood for Broadway, starring in *Romeo and Juliet* and *Candida*, to mixed notices. She returned to the cameras as 1952's *My Cousin Rachel*, excellent in this unevenly scripted version of Daphne Du-

Maurier's novel, then played herself in *Main Street to Broadway* (1953). She was *That Lady*, went blonde for *Not as a Stranger* (billed over Robert Mitchum and Frank Sinatra), both 1955, sparkled as *The Ambassador's Daughter* (1956), was Alan Ladd's poignant pioneer wife in *The Proud Rebel* (1958), then committed *Libel* (1959).

In 1961, she and Fonda starred on Broadway in *A Gift of Time*, and the next year she beautifully played the mother of a mentally limited daughter in *A Light in the Piazza*. She was terrorized by hoodlum James Caan in *Lady in a Cage*, but her determination overcame his brutality. At Davis' insistence, she replaced an ill Joan Crawford in *Hush Hush Sweet Charlotte* (1964): her bitch had an understated silkiness that contrasted nicely with Davis' scenery-chewing. She sipped Katherine Anne Porter's *Noon Wine* for television in 1966.

She was one of *The Adventurers* (1970) and the Mother Superior in 1972's *Pope Joan*, departed from *Airport 77*, and she, Michael Caine and Fonda fled killer bees in 1978's *The Swarm*. *The Fifth Musketeer* (1979) cast her as Queen Anne. On television, she proved *Murder Is Easy*, played the Queen Mother in *The Romance of Charles and Diana* (both 1982), was Dowager Empress Marie in 1986's *Anastasia: The Mystery of Anna*, traveled North and South II and was Mrs. Simpson's Aunt Bessie in *The Woman He Loved* (1988).

In 1955 she married Paris Match editor Pierre Galante and moved to the French capital, where she remains a beacon in the City of Light. She published a 1963 memoir of life there, *Every Frenchman Has One* (a liver), and is reportedly writing her autobiography. It would be a compelling story, one she would tell with the sensitivity, grace, and candor that are the hallmarks of her work. ▼



Olivia de Havilland in 1947: legal battles against Warners.

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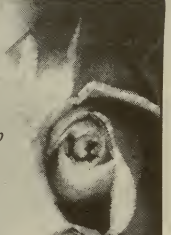
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Remember the Alamo

by Victoria A. Brownworth

The fat lady—or rather, four men and a woman in black robes—has sung. Gore's been gored, the Shrub is planted, it's all over except for CNN's Chris Matthews shouting. Fasten your seatbelts, kids, it's going to be a bumpy four years.

The pivotal events of the last five weeks were made much more stunning by the eyewitness of television. Though we often hate TV, this is what it does best: brings history into our living rooms with stunning immediacy. The past few weeks have provided riveting politics, as well as the best TV miniseries since *I, Claudius*. The only missing intrigue—no poison in anyone's food or drink (sadly).

Of course, we're in mourning—for democracy. Like US Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens, we lament the loss of any shred of impartiality in the judiciary. If the five justices who handed the election to Bush—which he did not win—knew as much about the Constitution and Articles of Confederation as they claim, they'd know that, in our governmental checks and balances, the judicial branch of government is supposed to be the impartial branch which mitigates the partisan nature of the other two. Tell it to Rehnquist, Scalia, Thomas, Kennedy and O'Connor.

We watched every moment of their crayon-drawing heads querying attorneys for Bush and Gore. Despite having spent several years in our previous incarnation covering the High Court in Washington, we haven't seen such a bad decision since *Bowers v. Hardwick*. That case was about the right to get fucked up the ass in private, this one makes a public ass-fuck *de rigueur*.

We'd like to remind casual court observers (that would be 99.9% of Americans before last week) that the conservatives on the Rehnquist court have never before used equal protection as an

argument for anything. If they had, 39 of the 40 people executed in Texas this year would still be alive.

Revulsed as we were by the fascist behavior of the Court, we were more sickened by Republican calls for bipartisan unity after Bush stole the election. Where exactly was that bipartisan cheering section when votes needed to be counted in Florida?

TV also gives us that instant-replay action so useful for hoisting people on their own petards. Our favorite come-back-to-bite-you quote was James Baker on every network November 9 stating unequivocally, "This election will not be won in the courts." The Bush team filed the first briefs the next day.

Class act

Speaking of history, Gore made it again with his poignant, witty and gracious concession speech. Not only did Gore win the popular vote by just under 400,000 votes, not only did he by all accounts—except those who stole the election—win in Florida, but he also won top ratings for his speech, which garnered 66.2 million viewers to Bush's 63.4 million viewers. Even in the ratings, Gore won. (We loved the partisan PBS, which ran the Gore speech live with follow-up coverage, and ran Bush taped after regular programming ended, *sans* follow-up. And there was a certain irony to Gore's speech pre-empting *The West Wing*.)

We had to give Gore credit for pulling off his speech with such panache. Talk about a class act. We don't know how he kept from shrieking, "Dammit, I know I won, you know I won, and the Supreme Court knows I won, which is why they're afraid to count the votes." We would have loved to see three renegade electoral college voters go the other way December 18. Just for fun.

As for those speeches, Gore: sadly more lively in defeat than he was as a candidate. Bush: quoting Jefferson still doesn't make him statesmanlike. And Laura Bush: the worst-dressed woman in

Washington, and she isn't even there yet. Does Barbara Bush choose her clothes, or does she just get them right from the *Upholstery Today* catalogue? What was that outfit she was wearing? Did she make it from old kitchen curtains?

Laura's Secret Service code name is certainly a misnomer: Tempo. We think not. Dubya's—Tumbler—seems a tad subtle. Is it a reference to his past alcoholism, or how he falls all over his words every time he talks? We are intrigued by Jeb "I told Dubya I'd win him Florida by hook or by crooks." His SS name is "Tripper." Does he have a hidden acid past?

And how creepy is it that Bush Sr. and Bar are going to be hanging with Dubya at the White House? How many 55-year-olds want their parents living with them? Or is this just reality closing in—Bush Sr. will be the *real* prez and Dubya the figurehead.

Will we ever see the Bush twins? Will we ever learn their names? Do they actually exist?

Slacker prez

Meanwhile, insiders were explaining Bush's leadership style on the news and tabloid talks post-coup as being delegatory. According to his staff in Austin, he goes to work early, leaves early and takes long breaks in the middle of the day to exercise and go running. In other words, he's a lazy ass who doesn't know how to do an honest day's work.

We like how the Shrub announced his three tokens of color first, for that illusion of inclusion. Colin Powell will be the scariest Secretary of State since James Baker. Condeleeza Rice—the black Donna Reed—will be National Security Advisor (apparently, Pat Buchanan, whose politics she reflects, wasn't available). Al Gonzalez will be senior White House counsel. Expect everyone else to be rich white guys. These are the only people of color Bush Sr.—oops, we meant Bush Jr.—knows. Except Jeb's Latina wife and his children, whom Bush Sr. once referred to as his "little brown grandchildren." Where is

Harriet Beecher Stowe when you need her?

Other dramas looming on Capitol Hill kept tabloid TV abuzz and morning news programs hopping post-coup. Hillary Clinton and Trent Lott are cruisin' toward a bruise. When asked what he thought of her joining the Senate, Lott noted lightning could still strike before she made it there. Love that bipartisan talk.

Speaking of bipartisan talk, after the speeches we saw Newt Gingrich on NBC calling for an end to extremism by Republicans. Maybe he should be called Tripper. His soliloquy to Tom Brokaw on the merits of working both sides of the aisle, on how it's now a different era, and on the positive elements of the Clinton presidency made us feel we'd been beamed to a parallel universe.

Meanwhile, John McCain (who says he's bitter?) plans to propose campaign finance reform January 22, which should screw the Shrub right and proper from the get-go. We hear the gears of gridlock grinding already.

Or maybe that was simply the sound of John Goodman plummeting irretrievably in the ratings. The queer chubby-chaser sitcom *Normal, Ohio* (we told you it wasn't funny) has been put on hiatus by Fox. Setsiders say it isn't likely to return.

Alas, for all those queens whose guilty pleasure has been the fabulously shallow Aaron Spelling soap *Titans*, NBC insiders inform *The Lavender Tube* that the show is over and out. The move to Monday nights signaled the death knell as the numbers fell by several million viewers in one week. We hope Fox will pick it up; Spelling has had great success there with *Melrose Place* and *90210*, but the NBC contract may prohibit the move.

Meanwhile, NBC solidified their ranking as the queer network last week as Laura Innes and Elizabeth Mitchell had a little impromptu kiss on *ER*. A real on-the-lips kiss between two attractive women, and neither is Ellen DeGeneres (oh right, we said at

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FILM

Here's to Grandma



Comic and TV director Jan Oxenberg (right) cast her grandma Mae Joffa in the star role of her documentary *Thank You and Goodnight*, which is being given a revival screening by the San Francisco Jewish Film Festival on Wednesday, December 27 at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. Oxenberg blends vérité family footage with scenes of Mae cracking jokes and kvetching during the last months of her life. *Thank You and Goodnight* was named Best Documentary at the 1991 San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. Screens 12/27 at 8 p.m. at YBC, 701 Mission St. Tickets and information: (415) 978-ARTS. ▼

Illustration: Belasco

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FILM

The unstoppable libido

Say hello to Julian Schnabel and Javier Bardem

by David Lamble

Reinaldo Arenas was born on a mud-caked farm in eastern Cuba; he died in a New York City walkup apartment, of complications from AIDS. Arenas produced eight novels, hundreds of poems and short stories, and over 5,000 orgasms. *Before Night Falls* is a memoir he wrote in short bursts, while on the lam from Castro's secret police. The book describes the clarity a great writer can achieve during the last rays of the sun and before the onset of the much longer night at life's end.

Arenas felt that the real Cuban Revolution was the great sexual awakening of the island nation's young men — who increasingly found each other on beaches, in toilets, on crowded buses or trains, in or out of uniform — as if the dictator's cries for order, the Maximum Leader's marathon speeches were in themselves some kind of aphrodisiac. It's almost as if the regime's own neurotic machismo became a siren cry for its opposite.

"I think that the sexual revolution in Cuba actually came about as a result of the existing sexual repression," wrote Arenas. "Perhaps as a protest against the regime, ho-



Director Julian Schnabel on the set of *Before Night Falls*

mosexuality began to flourish with ever-increasing defiance. Moreover, since the dictatorship was considered evil, anything it proscribed was seen in a positive light by the nonconformists, who in the '60s were already almost the majority. I honestly believe that the concentration camps for ho-

mosexuals, and the police officers disguised as willing young men to entrap and arrest homosexuals, actually resulted in the promotion of homosexual activities."

Painter Julian Schnabel didn't know who Arenas was until he had already been dead for five years. Schnabel, whose only previ-

ous film, *Basquiat*, captured the comet-like life of graffiti artist Jean-Michel Basquiat, remembers seeing a BBC documentary featuring Arenas. "He was so charming and funny. I never thought I was going to get the rights to *Before Night Falls*, because his friend Lazaro Gomez Carriles was watching the book like a Chinese guard dog."

Because he's neither Cuban nor gay, Schnabel feels that his take on Arenas, while less sexually or politically charged, gives a balanced portrayal of an artist never really at home on or off his fecund island. Tellingly, Arenas' book opens with an act of congress with Cuba itself. "I was two. I was standing there, naked. I bent down and licked the earth. The first taste I remember is the taste of the earth... [I] ate dirt in the shed. The shed was the place next to the house where the animals slept, that is, the horses, the cows, the pigs, the chickens, the sheep." In the first 30 pages, Arenas describes virtually every sexual act possible with each of these beasts.



Spanish actor Javier Bardem

Arenas was proudly a lover of all creatures, a writer without sentimentality, a passionate partisan of neither the right nor the left. His rural eastern Cuba was no peaceable kingdom, but indeed a paradise lost.

Toned down?

Schnabel has already been attacked for toning down Arenas' unstoppable libido. Could even Pasolini have done full justice to Reinaldo's Havana after dark? "To enter a movie theatre was to figure out whom we would sit next to..."

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Before Night

◀ Arts cover

weigh the usual difficulties of dramatizing the life of a writer. Born into rural poverty in 1943, with the soul of a poet and the body of a hustler, the writer was carried away by the tides of revolution in the 1950s. Eight of his nine novels were banned in Cuba and published abroad, including *Before Night Falls*. He became a fugitive because of his illegal international writings, and he spent two years in the 1970s in El Morro prison, where he survived by writing letters to the wives and lovers of the illiterate criminals. In 1980, Castro allowed homosexuals and the mentally ill to leave Cuba, and Arenas expatriated to New York City. He lived there until his death from AIDS in 1990.

Julian Schnabel has accomplished something remarkable with *Before Night Falls*. The director, whose only previous film credit is *Basquiat*, does not succumb to the pitfalls of other heterosexual filmmakers who have failed to get the gay world right on-screen. Think of Clint Eastwood's mangling of the gay essence of *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*.

Lytic steps

A genuine eccentric in his own right (the rotund artist dresses in flowing sarongs), Schnabel has taken on an unlikely project and produced a lyrical film filled with just the right gay sensibilities. He does not miss a step in his depiction of the gay subculture in Cuba or the behavior of its inhabitants. *Before Night Falls*, like the Arenas memoir that inspired it, is the story of a sexual revolution that accompanied the "other" revolution in Cuba. From the early scenes of Arenas' homosexual awakening (a hilarious underwater ballet showing the young man with snorkeling gear examining other men's crotches up close) to a Felliniesque cross-dressing party,

Schnabel is tuned in to the gay experience.

Nor does the director make other expected decisions in his depiction of the colorful Caribbean island behind the Iron Curtain in the 1950s and '60s. The sounds of a mambo nightclub are erased and replaced with a lyrical cello track, playing like a voiceover from Arenas's mind, which often occupies a space far distant from his physical surroundings. The scene of "undesirables" leaving Cuba in droves during the 1980 Mariel Harbor boatlift plays like a documentary. Whatever direction the actors were given makes them seem truly like real political refugees, rather than actors and extras milling about a set in Mexico. Such successes are not to be taken for granted, but are the telling signs of a fine director.

French heartthrob Olivier Martinez (*Horseman on the Roof*) portrays Lazaro Gomez Carriles, who first appears as a straight, Speedo-clad hunk whom Arenas propositions on the beach, only to be punched in the nose. Gomez reappears later in Arenas' life, becoming his best friend and protégé. The real-life writer co-authored the screenplay of *Before Night Falls*.

Two cameos by big-name Hollywood stars will broaden the audience for the film. Sean Penn is almost unrecognizable as Cuco Sanchez, with gold teeth and a cheesy Cuban accent. And Johnny Depp gets the best photo ops in the splashy dual roles of a sadistic, macho prison lieutenant who is not above rubbing his crotch in the face of a gay prisoner, and as Bon Bon, a cross-dressing inmate whose unique anatomical gifts allow him/her to smuggle Arenas' book manuscripts out of jail.

Theatrically, the film loses its way after Arenas' arrival in New York, where he fails to find paradise. After a brief moment of exhilaration, memorably symbolized by a joyful scene of snowfall landing on the two men at the bottom of a forest of skyscrapers,

Arenas and Gomez face a reality which reflects the poverty of their early years in Cuba. At this point, the screenplay loses steam, and the literary accomplishments of the protagonist are lost in the bathos of his struggles as an immigrant.

But there are sublime moments before this falling off. One senses danger in the scene of a young mother and her son, who is approached by a stranger who offers him some money, but the nature of the relationship between the man and boy is held until nearly the end of the film. Our hero is tortured by a sadistic prison guard, who forces Arenas to perform a sort of fellatio on his pistol. And an enormous hot air balloon fills the interior of a roofless, abandoned convent, tantalizingly representing the possibility of escape from Cuba. *Before Night Falls* transports the viewer to another world, and does the author proud. ▼

Before Night Falls opens Friday at the Lumiere.

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OUT & ABOUT



Take 2 brother/sister duo Matthew Liebowitz and Sarah Hope brighten up Piaf's Restaurant & Cabaret. See Friday.

Calendare by Mark Mardon

Farewell, de Young

A venerable art museum is about to come down in Golden Gate Park, making way for a spiffy new one to go up, and as ever in San Francisco the art world goes 'round and 'round, delirious with the desire to rank high in international stature.

The fierce criticism that initially greeted plans for the new, seismically sound **M.H. de Young Memorial Museum** building, designed by renowned architects Herzog & de Meuron, has largely died down, while those who sing the new museum's hosannas are legion. Objections to the new museum's tower — that it's too tall and out of character with the park's "natural" setting (ignoring that the park is entirely man-made) — have dwindled to mere gripes.

The overall scheme, with a long, low, airy profile offset at one end by the imposing tower accommodating art-education classes and topped by an observation deck, has been derided by grumblers as resembling an aircraft carrier. Yet the local art community, including docents, collectors, architects, landscape architects, educators, students and working artists passionately defend the new design. Even SFMOMA's curator of design and architecture, Aaron Betsky, spoke up at a recent Planning Commission hearing, arguing in favor of the Herzog & de Meuron plan, even though the new de Young clearly rivals SFMOMA in beauty, utility, and prestige.

Harry Parker, director of the city's fine-arts museums, ardently worked for the new building, eloquently promoting it as a state-of-the-art facility "constructed of lightly-hued, natural materials to resonate with the museum's surroundings and create a seamless transition between indoor and outdoor space."

Inauguration of the new edifice and its lovely landscaped grounds (designed by Walter Hood) is planned for sometime in 2005. Meanwhile the old structure sits there, soon to be torn down, its structural integrity hopelessly compromised by the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake. The thousands who visited its galleries will always remember the old de Young's rather somber, claustrophobic feel, its aged dignity, its dim corridors. It seemed musty and funky and fun, but hardly a first-rate place for art.

Before the old de Young closes for good on Dec. 31, the public has a last chance to pay its respects. A series of farewell events is planned for the week of Dec. 26-31, ranging from kids' art activities (10:30 a.m.-noon daily), to live music and docent tours, to an all-night (12 a.m.-11 a.m.) ceremonial "Rites of Passage" party on Dec. 31 with West African, Pacific Islander, California Native American, Guatemalan and Aztec music and dance. The old de Young closes at 5 p.m. that Sunday, making way for a breath of fresh air.

Fri 22

GLBT Historical Society

Ongoing exhibit: "Images of Black Men," a series of sculptural paintings by Kemt Amenophis, who creates images using Fixall and Italian modeling marble. These bas-relief heads emulate their African antecedents and are vivid contemporary expressions of black manhood. The exhibit is a singularly powerful statement, speaking to the artist's desire for and admiration of black men. Free. Tue.-Sun., 2pm-5pm. 973 Market St. (btwn 5th and 6th sts.), Suite 400. A closing reception will be held Thu., Jan. 11, 2001. Info: 777-5455; www.glhs.org

Piaf's Restaurant & Cabaret

Take 2 brother/sister duo Sarah Hope and Matthew Liebowitz share "A Wonderful Life," songs and stories to celebrate the season, accompanied by pianist and musical director Joan Edgar. The hour-long show of new arrangements, traditional carols, and cabaret surprises takes listeners on a sentimental journey of love, heartache and laughter. \$15 cover (\$10 for dining patrons, with dinner seating at 7:45pm). 9:30pm show. 1686 Market St. (at Gough). Reservations: 864-3700.

Rainbow Community Center, Concord

Holiday potluck for everyone in the GLBT community of Contra Costa County. Bring a dish and share the season with friends and newcomers. The center hosts a wide array of programs, including weekly coming-out groups for women, PFLAG and AA meetings, women-of-leather nights, a men's social, parenting and transgender-support groups, youth drop-in and peer-support weekends, and much more. Recently the center teamed up with Boadecia's Books of Kensington to offer monthly readings and book-signings. (Note: a "Women's Night New Year's Eve Bash" will be held here Sunday, Dec. 31, 8pm-1am). Today's potluck welcomes all. Bring a dish. 6pm. 2118 Willow Pass, Suite 500, Concord. Info: (925) 692-0090; www.rainbowcc.org

The Marsh

"A Karen Carpenter Christmas," written by Tom Ross and Morey Goldstein. Performed by Katie Guthorn, Morey Goldstein, Joshua Raoul Brody, and special guest stars. Directed by Tom Ross. Karen has been offered the opportunity to star in her very own Christmas TV special, but she can't find her Christmas spirit. With the help of special friends, however, Karen not only gets great gifts, but learns the "meaning." A Yuletide ex-

travaganza featuring classics from The Carpenter canon in a pageant for the entire family. \$17. 8pm. Thru Dec. 29 (no shows on Dec. 24 & 25). 1062 Valencia St. (near 22nd St.). Tix/info: 826-5750; www.themarsh.org

Theatre on the Square

Luis Bravo and Jonathan Reinis present "Forever Tango," direct from Buenos Aires, Argentina, featuring a cast of 14 virtuoso tango dancers, an 11-piece orchestra anchored by four bandoneóns, and celebrated tango singer Carlos Morel. Including the music of Piazzolla and more. Lavishly staged in two acts. \$35 & \$45. 3pm & 8:30pm. Also on Sat., Dec. 23 (8:30pm) and Sun., Dec. 24 (3pm). 450 Post St. Tix/info: 433-9500 or BASS; www.theatreonthesquare.com

Sat 23

Herbst Theatre

"The 8th Annual Evening of Kung Pao Koshar Comedy," featuring HBO Comedy Central star Marc Maron, fresh from a successful off-Broadway run of his one-man show "Jerusalem Syndrome." With Page Hurwitz, science-flavored stand-up comic Brian Malow, and host/creator/MC Lisa Geduldig, whose mother unintentionally writes most of her material. \$25. 8pm. 401 Van Ness Ave. (at McAllister). Tix/info: 522-3737; www.ticket.com

El Rio

Benefit for the Haight Ashbury Free Food Program, featuring DJs Black & Geoff spinning house, and live music by Ultra Gypsy. El Rio is a neighborhood bar in the Mission with a culturally, racially and sexually mixed environment. It hosts frequent GLBT events, but all of its functions draw diverse crowds. \$5 w/can of corn, yams or string beans; \$10-\$12 w/o. 5-7:30pm cocktail party; 7:30-2am reception, party & dancing. 21+ w/ID. 3158 Mission St. (btwn Caesar Chavez & Valencia). Info: 282-3325.

A Waking Dream

Eviction defense fund benefit: an all-night psychedelic party in the Waking Dream warehouse space, home to a multicultural music, art and performance collective in the Mission, dedicated to the ideals of a clean, healthy environment, nonviolent community activism, multiculturalism, children's activities, and artistic expression. Throughout the summer and fall the group participates in the Lesbian and Gay Pride Celebration, Unity, Dia de los Muertos, and many other festivals and public events. Tonight featuring



Photo Credit

Page Hurwitz laughs it up along with other comedians in *Kung Pao Koshar Comedy* at Herbst Theatre and New Asia Restaurant. See Saturday & Sunday.

DJs TranceTribal, RoBoDub, and FutureBeatz, video/multimedia by CultureLab and A Waking Dream, "Blacklite Deco that will pop your eyes out [and] some of the freakiest art installations you will ever see!" \$8 (NOTAFLOR). 10pm-6am. 2815 18th St. (at Bryant, around the corner from CellSpace — look for the 20-foot robot doorman). Info: 642-5757; www.awakingdream.com

Sun 24

Castro Theater

The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, under the baton of the group's new conductor, Dr. Kathleen McGuire, performs "Home for the Holiday," the 11th annual edition of the seasonal concert that brightens up the Castro. Featuring an audience sing-a-long, including the "Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's *Messiah*, and traditional Christmas carols. Plus "Hine Ma Tov" by Allen E. Naplan, a lively Hebrew piece written in the Jewish Klezmer style. New songs in the program include "Coming Out On Christmas," "Christmas in the Cloister," and "The Twelve Days After Christmas." This concert is dedicated to the memory of the Chorus' long-time friend and supporter, Deborah Blumenfeld. \$15. 5, 7 & 9pm. Tix at 400 Castro St. (corner of Market St.), or call 863-4472.

New Asia Restaurant

"The 8th Annual Evening of Kung Pao Koshar Comedy," the best in Jewish humor during the Christmas holidays. Featuring Jewish comedy, Chinese food, and fortune cookies filled with Yiddish proverbs. Featuring HBO Comedy Central star Marc Maron, with Page Hurwitz, Brian Malow, and host/creator/MC Lisa Geduldig. \$45 dinner show (7-course Chinese banquet & comedy) at 6pm; \$30 cocktail show (hors d'oeuvres, soft-drink & comedy). Also on Mon., Dec. 25. 772 Pacific Ave. (btwn Grant & Stockton). Tix/info: 522-3737; www.kosharcomedy.com



David M. Allen

Culture Clash performance trio Herbert Siguenza, Richard Montoya and Ric Salinas take a *Mission Magic Mystical Tour* at Brava Theater Center. See Wednesday.



"Sylvester as A Mermaid," 1986, by Kemit Amenophis, part of *Images of Black Men at the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society* at 973 Market St. See Friday.

California Palace of the Legion of Honor

Just opened: "The Visual Art of John Cage: To Sober and Quiet the Mind." John Cage (1912-1992) was best known for his avant-garde musical compositions that defied conventional rules of harmony and were composed using what he called "chance operations." He also created visual work beginning with graphic scores, then added printmaking, drawing and watercolor. A selection of some 50 of his etchings and monotypes are presented. Co-curated by Karin Breuer and Kathan Brown. \$8 gen'l adult; \$6 seniors; \$5 youth; free 12 & under. 9:30am-5pm Tue. - Sun. (open till 4pm Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve; closed Christmas day and New Year's day). Thru April 15, 2001. Lincoln Park (entrance at 34th Ave. & Clement St.). Info: 863-3330; www.thinker.org

Old First Church

"Christmas In A Celtic Land," featuring Golden Bough, a trio of modern-day minstrels (Paul Espinoza, Margie Butler, and Sue Draheim) who have traveled the world performing their own brand of Celtic music, drawn from Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Cornwall, The Isle of Man, French Brittany, and Galicia (in Spain). Songs to celebrate the Winter Solstice and the New Year, played on Celtic harp, penny-whistle, guitar, accordion, mandolin, mandola, violin, viola and bodhran. A family affair. \$9 (\$7 seniors). 8pm. Corner of Van Ness and Sacramento. Info: 474-1608.

Mon 25

Roxie Cinema

Screening: *Trouble in Paradise* (1932), directed by Ernst Lubitsch, starring Miriam Hopkins and Herbert Marshall as a pair of charming jewel thieves who come into conflict with one another when one of their intended victims (Kay Francis) falls prey to Marshall's ample charms. Out of circulation for many years, this sparkling film is one of Hollywood's great sophisticated comedies. \$7 (\$3 senior/child). 2, 4:30, 7, & 9pm. 3117 16th St. (at Valencia). Info: 863-1087; www.roxie.com

Tue 26

The Stud

Mistress of ceremonies Peaches Christ, fresh from hosting crazed "Midnight Mass" film screenings and

appearing on glamorous Public Access TV, conducts Trannyshack's "Star Search," seeking to discover San Francisco's next big drag celebrity. All the boys who didn't go home to Kansas or wherever for the holidays will be here to cheer on the contestants. Snuggle up with one or more on the packed dance floor and enjoy the day after Christmas with the city's wildest trannies. \$5 cover. 10pm-3am (show starts at midnight). 9th & Harrison. Info:

Wed 27

The Brava Theater Center

Preview: Brava! for Women in the Arts presents a world-premiere commissioned work, "Mission Magic Mystical Tour," starring Culture Clash (Mission District homeboys Richard Montoya, Ric Salinas and Herbert Siguenza). An assault against the "Manhattanization" of a neighborhood in transition, remaining true to the spirituality and poetry of the Mission. \$12 previews (thru Dec. 30); \$20-\$50 opening night (Wed., Jan. 3, 2001); \$18-26 regular run (thru Jan. 28, '01). Info/tix: 392-4400; www.ticketweb.com

Thu 28

SF Main Library

"Kwanzaa 2000: The Seven Principles," a holiday celebration presented by the Black Gay Letters & Arts Movement (B/GLAM) in association with the Main Library's African American and Gay and Lesbian Centers. "Kwanzaa," which roughly means "harvest" in Swahili, is a recognition of community, family, commitment, and blessings. The week-long celebration, beginning on Dec. 26, is centered around seven principles for living. "Kwanzaa 2000" will salute artistic contributions of renowned African American lesbian, gay, bisexuals and transgender women and men. Featuring performances by Bay Area musicians, dancers and writers. B/GLAM seeks to build a sense of community between Black gay/same-gender-loving men through the arts, and to highlight the artistic contributions of BGLM to the broader community. Free. 6-7:30pm. Civic Center.

Castro Theater

Gala screening and party: Glamprario Marc Huestis presents "New Year's Blow-Out on the SS Poseidon," a blast of *The Poseidon Adventure* past. Two of the stars of that 1972

flick — Stella Stevens and Carol Lynley — will be on hand to tell tales of that fateful New Year's Eve night in the movie, when they, Ernest Borgnine, Shelley Winters, Roddy McDowall, Gene Hackman and the rest played characters finding themselves in perilous waters as their ill-fated ocean liner plummeted to the depths. Now a camp classic. Partial proceeds benefit PAWS (Pets Are Wonderful Support). \$25. 7pm. Tix at A Different Light Bookstore.

Club Fab, Guerneville

The first annual "Taste of the River" holiday dinner and show, presented by Russian River resident and Mr. North Coast Leather 2001 T. Jay Cain, together with numerous Russian River businesses. An elegant holiday dinner and show at Guerneville's historic theatre and dance venue, Club Fab, benefiting the Sonoma County AIDS Emergency Fund. Entertainment by more than 80 men from the SF Gay Men's Chorus, plus the musical talents of pianist Momi Starr and vocalist Ursula Cain, as well as the side-splitting humor of comedienne Shann Carr. The dinner will be a five-course meal prepared and donated by a number of restaurants on the Russian River including Cape Fear, Burdon's, Sweets River Grill and Pasta Boys. Wines will be poured by acclaimed Sonoma Valley wineries, De Loach, Clos Du Bois and Korbel. A benefit for the nonprofit AIDS Emergency Fund which provides a wide array of critical resources to AIDS survivors in Sonoma County. Tickets for the one-hour open bar beginning at 6pm, and the 5-course dinner and concert, are \$100 per person and must be purchased in advance by Fri., Dec. 22 from Guerneville's Russian River Eagle or Triple "R", or online at www.TicketWeb.com. \$10 tickets for just the 9pm Chorus concert may be purchased in advance or at the door.

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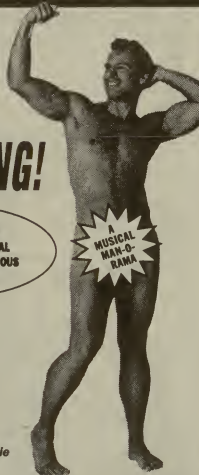
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Thanks for the memories - part I Look back at leather

by Mister Marcus

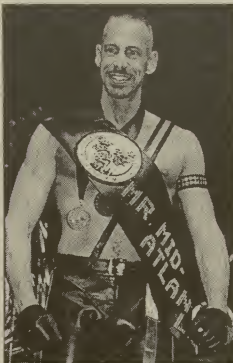
The past year, like many before it, was another series of ups and downs for our leather/SM community. We managed to bear the brunt of misfortune and rallied to help those who were having difficulties, including those who experienced police harassment in San Diego and other places. The worst blow to gay rights was the election of George W. Bush to the presidency, but it's a done deal and thanks anyway to all of you who got out there and voted. We now have district supervisors governing the City & County of San Francisco, and this turn of events promises to be lively no matter how you look at it.

The fundraising continued on all fronts from coast to coast and forgive me for boasting, but it looks like leather people of all persuasions managed to raise the most, including the whopping \$265,000 raised by SMMILE with the Dore Alley and Folsom Street Fairs. The generosity of our people should stand as a shining example to all other segments of the greater GLBT that unity works miracles.

Enough said. With those things now a matter of fact, how about some of the highlights of last year's "season"? It was the year of the Dragon (4698) and coming up next is the year of the Snake (4699), so be on your guard!

January

The Centaur MC's annual Leather Weekend in Washington, DC was another sell-out, and Tom Robinson emerged as the winner of that title.



Tom Robinson of Washington, D.C. won the Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather title last January at the big Centaur MC leather event. He passes the sash and title to a successor during Martin Luther King weekend.

During the month, the Bare Chest Calendar for 2001 got underway, with Nick Knight taking the Mr. January 2001 spot; Lance Gear won Mr. February. Lance went on in March to become Mr. San Francisco Leather 2001.

Mark Frazier was named Mr. Dallas Leather, and was among the 20 finalists at IML as was Lance Gear.

The nation's newest gay playground, the Suncoast Resort in St. Petersburg, FL, staged their first leatherfest, and Earl Thomas was named Mr. Suncoast Leather 2000.

Mark Seeba won the Mr. March 2001 spot on the calendar — his second appearance — and Ronnie Grigsby and Ms. Lance Moore captured the Mr. and Ms. Santa Clara Valley leather titles.

The IML judges for 2000 were named in January.

Doug Bedard won the Mr. Faultline Leather title in Los Angeles.

February

Paul Dawson won the April 2001 spot on the bare chest calendar.

Ted Kuehner was named Mr. Bullet Leather at that bar in North Hollywood.

Rob Esmonde was named Mr. Daddy's Leather.

Bob Miller grabbed the Mr. Edge Leather title.

Mike Taylor won the Mr. Heartland Leather title in Columbus, Ohio and of course, you all know he went on to triumph in Chicago in May.

The Los Angeles Leather Coalition (LALC) was formed to offer more cooperation within the leather bar communities of the Southland, and they did a great job with the task at hand.

In Toronto, Northbound Leather celebrated its 10th anniversary with a huge "fetish night" party.

Jeff Cilione won the Mr. May 2001 spot on the bare chest calendar.

In Chicago, the grand opening of the Leather Archives & Museum took place with all the pomp and circumstance befitting such an occasion. As chilly as it was in Chicago, the enthusiasm was warm and expectations were high. The weekend also included the Mr. Cell Block Leather competition which was won by the very handsome Kevin Clancy who hosted all the other IML contestants in May and was lusted after all weekend. Kevin placed high in the IML rankings when it was all

over, and Patti Brown hasn't beamed so proudly and brightly since he first came out!

At the ICF Motorcycle Awards, Andy Rose was named Man of the Year, and Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt was named Woman of the Year. Yes, it was busy all over leather nation during February.

March

Seth Adams won the June 2001 spot on the BC calendar, and that cute Scott Strang captured the July spot.

A horde of locals and out-of-towners witnessed the Mr. San Francisco Leather contest, and Lance Gear won the spot; he was also a finalist at IML in Chicago. Lance included his runner-ups Bob Miller and Rob Esmonde in all his fundraisers and the

trio is welcome all over town. Another leather icon, Clive Platman, IM Drummer 1990 passed away in Auckland, New Zealand.

In Philly, Mark Cady was chosen Mr. Philadelphia Leather and Jo Anne Wadsworth was Ms. Philadelphia Leather.

Jeff Wacha was chosen Mr. Los Angeles Leather in an extravaganza they are still raving about.

In Dallas, Robert Goode was sashed Mr. Leather of All Texas.

In St. Louis, that cute Gary Hummel was chosen Mr. Missouri Leather.

Craig Kelso got the Mr. Washington State Leather title, and the rules up there indicate he will compete at IML in 2001.

April

Ingu Yun's Sun Dance Saloon C/W dances at King Street celebrated two years of success: Art Arciniega was named Mr. August 2001 spot and Jacques Saint-Dizier won the September spot; It was a tie for Mr. October between Nolan Flynn and Sal Rin uaro.

Leather made itself known up at the Russian River area when the Russian River Eagle opened with a splashy weekend that included a Mr. Russian River Eagle contest. Fred Wehman won the inaugural title.

The Golden Gate Guards staged the Dildeaux Awards at the Eagle and Ray Tilton again astounded spectators with his "out house" costume.

In Washington, D.C. Dean Ogren won the American Leatherman title while Paula Smith was named American Leather Woman; Upstate New York's Randie Smith won the American

next page ►

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, December 21

Winter Solstice Party at the Eagle Tavern, where "pagan behavior is encouraged," with live music by Sub Arachnoid Space. Don't miss it!

Friday, December 22

They're trashing it up at the Russian River Eagle with yet another of those "Black Out" parties from 2100 to closing.

Go to Under One Roof and buy a 2001 Bare Chest Calendar for your old friends in the "provinces" — calendar men will be autographing them today!

Saturday, December 23

The 15 Association's final party of the year. You know the location and the rules. Effective in Janu-

ary, price goes up to \$10 for members and \$15 for guests due to escalating expenses. Call 673-0452 for invite & info.

Wednesday, December 27

Final "Leather Buddies" of the year. You know the rules: no cologne, no underwear. Wear boots, leather, uniforms, latex. Drop your attitude and butch it up. Call 863-HEAD.

Thursday, December 28

"Taste of the River" big benefit with the SF Gay Men's Chorus, Shann Car, Momi Star and Ursula Cain. \$100 tickets includes a five-course dinner by Guerneville chefs. Concert at Club Fab. For info, call (707) 695-3817. To benefit Sonoma Co AIDS Emergency Fund.

Meaty matters

by John F. Karr

Tout le monde turned out at the Symphony last week to hear David Daniels' ambrosial voice take flight in repertory unusual for a countertenor. And all concurred with the proclamation he made in one Ravel song: "Tout gai!" Hit the nail on the head, that one, even if the program note somewhat ingenuously translated it as "Every-one's joyous." Then, as Daniels brought his manifold delicacy and piquant personal touches to Berlioz' *Les Nuits d'été*, I thought to myself, "The more he unleashes his Inner Queen, the higher he's going to soar."

Daniels' flight on this occasion was circumscribed only by the strange omission of fully half the Berlioz cycle. The singer contented himself—but certainly not his fans—by singing only the three songs the composer had sanctioned for the male voice. But as Daniels doesn't have a traditional male voice anyway, why didn't he just lunge for the whole thing?

Perhaps he could take a lesson from Michel Lucas, the Russian émigré who shot to porn superstardom at Falcon Studios, and then left abruptly to produce and direct his own videos. Michel's first video was *Back in the Saddle*, released on video early in 1999 and available now on DVD. It was greeted ecstatically, but on later reflection doesn't seem all that memorable despite the skill it displays. It's good only by the middling standards of other porn, whose conventions Michel tried to follow. But his attempt at meaningful plot is jumbled with disorienting flashbacks, the video's insistently thumping music is an irritating distraction, and a fury of editing shreds some ostensibly effective sex scenes.

But in his four subsequent films, as Michel seems to be showing less concern for what he thought was expected of him, his work has gained identity, effectiveness, and stature. You'll remember how I enthused several months ago over Michel's newest and best video, *Restless* (BAR, August 31, 2000). And that's not just

because I have the incredible hots for its star, the milky-skinned and statuesquely hung young hump Carlos Morales. The video delivers in full the elements which I can now see, after backtracking to Michel's previous videos, have become the estimable hallmarks of his style.

Intimate relations

Shooting Stars and *Homebodies* were released shortly after *Back in the Saddle*. In the first, Lucas relieved himself of narrative altogether, simply appearing onscreen as a porn entrepreneur who matches up pairs of performers and lets them go at it. After thus relieving his perform-

ers of the need to act, Lucas in his next video, *Homebodies*, retrieved the romantic connections between characters he had attempted in his first video. Yet now the format is streamlined, and strictly linear: a couple quarrel, and while

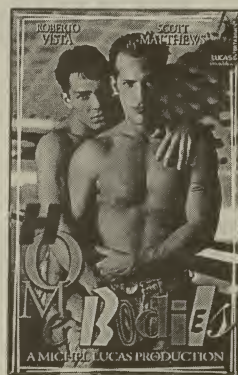
sounds of lovemaking to be heard. By not urging his performers toward the usual porn fuck dialogue ("Take that big dick," "You like that, don't ya?"), and by encouraging the strength of their personal connection, Lucas achieves in several scenes of each video a quality almost always lacking in porn: intimacy.

Love for Sale, released later in 1999, depicts two newly arrived young men seeking their way in the big city. They go to work for an escort agency, which is an easy set-up for sex scenes, but which Lucas uses to trace the boys' realizations about the meaning of their friendship as they have sex with strangers, and, in one telling scene, as they have sex with each other at a stranger's orders. Without leaning on it, Lucas says a lot.

If Lucas' lighting is unusually bright, it still has a translucent feel that softens the harshness of New York. And if he can't make anything cumulative out of the eye-popping incidents that fill the single orgy in each video, they're peopled with a lusty mix of ethnic types that typifies an inner-city sexuality without stereotyping it.

But Lucas excels in the fervent duos and energetic trios that pepper his movies. Although they are rarely longer than the couplings in other movies, their relaxed pacing and editing, as well as their calm sound world, make them seem more leisurely and rewarding. And then, of course, there are Lucas' cast members. These include the barrel chest and dick of Logan Reed (commandeering as either top or bottom in several of the films), the nasty Rick Allen, a collegiate Cameron Taylor, slacker Johnny Davis, guy next door Mitch Ryder, the aforesaid wonder of Carlos Morales, and a host of very special newcomers. These include a couple of beautiful African Americans, and a bevy of musky Russian, Puerto Rican, Italian, and Hispanic men. Like the guys in a Kristen Bjorn video, they all share a similar cock type; in Lucas' case, it's long, broad and meaty.

Watching Michel Lucas' videos in succession, you see that the more idiosyncratically, the less conventionally he has made his films, the better they've become. As for Mr. Daniels, perhaps I'm a little too eager to hail a Sylvester of the Symphony. But listen to me, David: You go, girl! ▼



testing the bounds of love and commitment with other partners, reaffirm their relationship. That the *Homebodies* couple were the youthfully suave Roberto Visto and broadly-dicked blond Scott Matthews helped a lot, as did Lucas' rejection of both commercial background music and fashionable abrupt editing. Whether with their spouses or fuckbuddies, Lucas' stars make love. And they do it in long-held takes, unimpeded by too much editing, and with only the enchantingly lubricious

turnout for the fuzzy ones.

The first regional Mr. Drummer competition took place in Dallas for the Gulf Coast Drummer title at the Dallas Eagle, and Randal Kinnear was the first one out on the Drummer roster.

Niq Shelbi was named Mr. SF Drummer and Terry Gauchat the SF Drummer Boy.

Bob Maddux, long the owner of Cell Block Leathers in Chicago announced he had sold the business to that cute Bill Kelly and partners.

Shawn Farnsworth, co-owner of the Faultline Bar in Los Angeles, launched free American Sign Language classes for patrons.

Daniel Henderson won the November 2001 spot on the bare chest calendar, and Ed Morgan was named Mr. December. In the cover man contest, Daniel was chosen to grace the front page, and Lance Gear graces the back cover

June

LGBT Pride parades dominat-

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

Leather Boy and is now happily married to Al Santora in Virginia someplace. Sadly, in Albuquerque, the Sandia Leather Men and the Sandia Leather Women clubs folded their tents and faded into the desert sand. There were no New Mexico leather contests and none are anticipated in the near future.

May

The biggest leather event in May was, of course, the International Mr. Leather 2000 contest in Chicago. Another record-breaking crowd trekked to the Windy City to see Mike Taylor of Cincinnati, Ohio captures the title. Scott Bloom of Long Beach was the 1st runner-up and Bob "Puppy" Pedder the 2nd runner-up. Bruce Chopnik managed to set an all-time record stepping-down speech, and the Great Lakes Bears shared the weekend with a huge

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 Next week: "Thanks for the Memories — Part II" gives you the leather highlights from July to December 2000.
 WED., DEC. 27TH
LEATHER BUDDIES

Black is beautiful

Homoerotic, Afro-erotic cartooning

by John F. Karr

The Brothers of New Essex: Afro Erotic Adventures by Belasco; Cleis Press, \$24.95

Here's a gay erotic cartooning event of profound sociological import. But since I'm not the guy to start trolling around all that academic stuff, let me just give you a heads up. Belasco is here.

The chances are more than likely that if you're a white guy, you've never seen *GBM*, the magazine which has published a handful of Belasco's self-described "Afro Erotic Adventures." You may have seen one or both of his longer-form stories in recent editions of the *Meatmen* collection. But by and large, Belasco is as unknown as the actual identity of the man who writes and draws this brazen, brilliant comic. This lavish collection, 176 pages in a generously oversized format, collects all the artist's work of his first five years, making for a "debut" that will be as surprising to most people for the quantity and quality of a previously unknown body of work as it will be for the provocative, exuberant sexuality of the big and beautiful black brothers it depicts.

Belasco is the *nom de porn* of an animation director of a weekly TV series, who was inspired to draw his comic by the absence he noted in gay publications of affirming representations of African American men. He was "floored" by the immediate and strong response to what he calls "my Marvel comic-y rendered examples of b-boys, ruffnecks and buppies." No doubt, you'll be floored, too, by the bold blacks and whites of his panels, which boil with velocity, and by the intensity and passion of the sex he depicts.

Like the best pornographers, Belasco knows just how provocative an irreverent sense of humor

can be. In the first comic in the collection, a Sunday worshipper is drawn outside the church for some copulation with the gardeners, as the choir inside bursts forth its Hosannahs. Later, in "The Trial of the Century," Belasco has OJ and his chief prosecutor locked together in a new kind of interrogation in the Men's Room at the trial. But my favorite bit of Belasco irreverence comes in one massively overwhelming full-page cum shot. Gripped in the near-religious ecstasy of their simultaneous shooting, three brothers testify as their jizz soars: "Oh, sweet Jesus Christ Almighty!" "Hail Mary Full of Grace!" and lastly, "Doobala bibibolbla klikiblujaba Bazzth!" A footnote winkingly tags these responses as Baptist, Catholic, and Pentecostal.

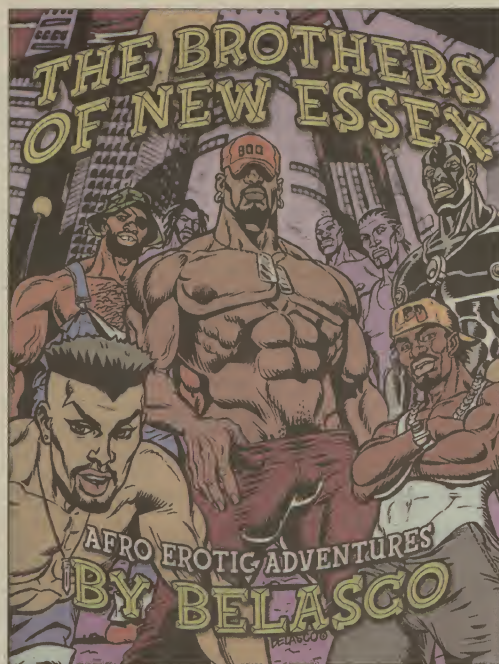
After-school special

But Belasco's delicious wit takes a complementary second place to his plain old ability to arouse. This he does with an initial casualness that startles with the quick onset of a fierce intensity, in several disarmingly sweet real-life stories. Like the one where Gran'ma slyly observes her grandson and his buddy make out in the dude's bedroom after school one afternoon. Or a more hard-edged episode that reveals one brother's dope-induced fantasies. And there's mighty fun after the award ceremony in the roomy interior of a limo, when the night's number one soul group drags a pedestrian into their limo, to find a practical use for their phallic-shaped trophy.

But the real glory of *The New Brothers of Essex* is in several impressively sustained longer stories, ranging from an uncommon 22 and 26 pages, to the book's incredible 40-page finale. These stories glory in full and even double-page panels of IMAX-impact sexuality, and scandalize with their depiction of extreme leathersex.

Here are godlike men with gigantic cocks, wrapped in a fantastic array of leather fashion, their nipples distended with wrench-like clamps, and their heavy cocks sprouting foreboding metallic apertures that are scary, yet thrilling to behold. In these episodes, Belasco shows the devilishly inventive imagination of Etienne and A. Jay, presented in the SM-flavored style of The Hun, Matt, and Tom of Finland. It's pretty hardcore stuff.

Yet always festive, Belasco seems to have Mardi Gras in his blood — so that even a twisted tale of captivity and forced sexuality in a dungeon netherworld remains upbeat. I can imagine how deeply moving it might be for black readers to embrace Belasco's art, which fiercely and lovingly portrays the sexual beauty of some mighty fine black men. But it's just as sexy and joyous for the rest of us. Important? Sure. And really hot. ▼



Fabulous fiction

by Deborah Peifer

I've never been a fan of Joan Drury's fiction, so her newest novel sat on my "yeah, I'll get to that" pile for an unconscionably long time. Shame on me. *Those Jordan Girls* (Spinners, \$12) is a remarkable novel, richly written, with extraordinary characters you will have in your life forever. Maddie is the narrator, the fourth generation of Jordan women living in one house, and her interactions with her great-grandmother, grandmother, and mother form the en-

grossing heart of this fictional family, one that rings entirely true.

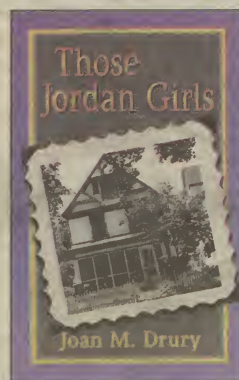
Iris Jordan, Gummie to her grand and great granddaughters, is a formidable and appealing character. She named her daughter Hester, after the character in *The Scarlet Letter*, hoping that "she would grow up to be a free thinker, as brave and unconventional as Hester Prynne. Her middle name, Emma, was after Emma Goldman, a free thinker — anar-

chist, champion of birth control, suffragist, publisher." To Iris's great regret, Hester plans a life of utter conventionality, marrying "that odious man," as Gummie calls him, who impregnates Hester, cats around, and then disappears. Hester works at living an ordinary life, but when she ends up leading her granddaughter's Girl Scout troop, she teaches the girls "to cook and sew and knit and build things. We made birdhouses and frames for photos of ourselves for Christmas that first year. ... One summer, we built a storage shed for one of the girls' fathers because Gramma wanted us to learn that we could build houses, if we wanted."

Despite her mother's naming fiasco, Hester hopes that naming her daughter Jane will help her to achieve the conventional life she wishes for her daughter. But Jane, Maddie's mother, stands convention on its head, bearing a child out of wedlock because she wanted a baby, not a husband. Maddie comes into the world laden with the expectations that come from belonging to a family of well-known, or in Jane's case, notorious, women. Her elders have much to teach Maddie, and their lessons are woven into the stories of childhood and the distant past with which they regale her, and us. Sometimes the lessons are so important that they cannot be couched in metaphor, as when Gummie asserts urgently: "Life is not something that just happens to you. It's something you choose. Every day, every hour, every minute."



Book Report



Those Jordan Girls reminded me of *To Kill a Mockingbird*, although it's not Southern, because Drury allows the narrative to move as slowly as necessary so her readers can have all the time they need to get to know these remarkable women. The writing is Drury's best ever, I believe, and she captures the idiosyncracies of her characters with a deft touch and penetrating insight. *Those Jordan Girls* is a delightful novel, a pleasure to read and recommend.

Books briefly

The third Meg Darcy mystery, *Mommy Dearest* (by Jean Marcy; New Victoria, \$11.95), is quite a find, an enjoyable mystery with plenty of relationship angst thrown in to mark it as truly les-

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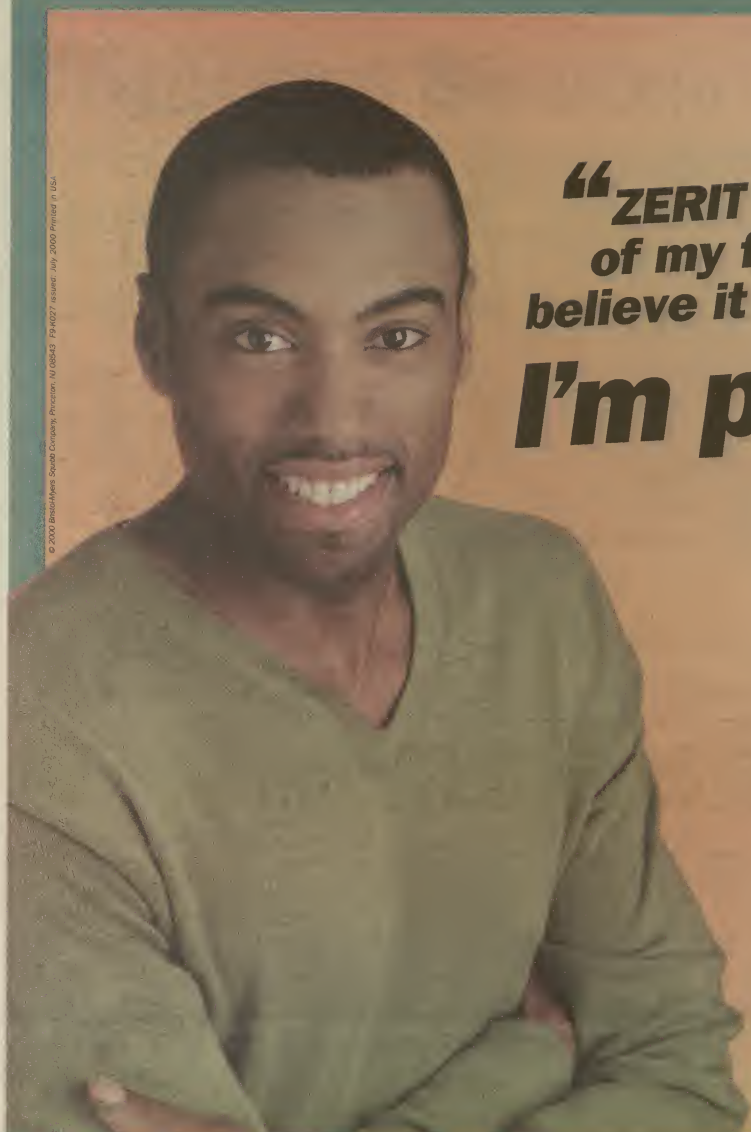
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CLINICAL STUDIES

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ZERIT is contraindicated in patients with clinically significant hypersensitivity to stavudine or to any of the components contained in the formulation.

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1. Lactic Acidosis/Severe Hepatomegaly with Steatosis: Lactic acidosis and severe hepatomegaly with steatosis, including fatal cases, have been reported with the use of nucleoside analogues alone or in combination, including stavudine and other antiretrovirals. A majority of these cases have been in women. Obesity and prolonged nucleoside exposure may be risk factors. Particular caution should be exercised when administering ZERIT to any patient with known risk factors for liver disease; however, cases have also been reported in patients with no known risk factors. Treatment with ZERIT should be suspended in any patient who develops clinical or laboratory findings suggestive of lactic acidosis or pronounced hepatotoxicity (which may include hepatomegaly and steatosis even in the absence of marked transaminase elevations).

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Caregivers of young children receiving ZERIT therapy should be instructed regarding detection and reporting of peripheral neuropathy.

Patients should be informed that when ZERIT is used in combination with other agents with similar toxicities, the incidence of adverse events may be higher than when ZERIT is used alone. These patients should be followed closely.

Patients should be informed that ZERIT is not a cure for HIV infection, and that they may continue to acquire illnesses associated with HIV infection, including opportunistic infections. Patients should be advised to remain under the care of a physician when using ZERIT. They should be advised that ZERIT therapy has not been shown to reduce the transmission of HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Patients should be informed that the long-term effects of ZERIT are unknown at this time.

Patients should be informed that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend that HIV-infected mothers not nurse newborn infants to reduce the risk of postnatal transmission of HIV infection.

Drug Interactions: Zidovudine may competitively inhibit the intracellular phosphorylation of stavudine. Therefore, use of zidovudine in combination with ZERIT is not recommended. (See CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY.)

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility: In 2-year carcinogenicity studies in mice and rats, stavudine was noncarcinogenic at doses which produced exposures (AUC) 99 and 166 times, respectively, human exposure at the recommended clinical dose. Benign and malignant liver tumors in mice and rats and malignant urinary bladder tumors in male rats occurred at levels of exposure 250 (mice) and 732 (rats) times human exposure at the recommended clinical dose.

Stavudine was not mutagenic in the Ames, *E. coli* reverse mutation, or the CHO/HGPRT mammalian cell forward gene mutation assays, with and without metabolic activation. Stavudine produced positive results in the *in vitro* human lymphocyte clastogenesis and mouse fibroblast assays, and in the *in vivo* mouse micronucleus test. In the *in vitro* assays, stavudine elevated the frequency of chromosome aberrations in human lymphocytes (concentrations of 25 to 250 µg/mL, without metabolic activation) and increased the frequency of transformed foci in mouse fibroblast cells (concentrations of 25 to 2500 µg/mL, with and without metabolic activation). In the *in vivo* micronucleus assay, stavudine was clastogenic in bone marrow cells following oral stavudine administration to mice at dosages of 600 to 2000 mg/kg/day for 3 days.

No evidence of impaired fertility was seen in rats with exposures (based on C_{max}) up to 216 times that observed following a clinical dosage of 1 mg/kg/day.

Pregnancy: Pregnancy Category C. Reproduction studies have been performed in rats and rabbits with exposures (based on C_{max}) up to 399 and 183 times, respectively, of that seen at a clinical dosage of 1 mg/kg/day and have revealed no evidence of teratogenicity. The incidence in fetuses of a common skeletal variation, unossified or incomplete ossification of sternebra, was increased in rats at 399 times human exposure, while no effect was observed at 216 times human exposure. A slight post-implantation loss was noted at 216 times the human exposure with no effect noted at approximately 135 times the human exposure. An increase in early rat neonatal mortality (birth to 4 days of age) occurred at 399 times the human exposure, while survival of neonates was unaffected at approximately 135 times the human exposure. A study in rats showed that stavudine is transferred to the fetus through the placenta. The concentration in fetal tissue was approximately one-half the concentration in maternal plasma. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, stavudine should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry: To monitor maternal-fetal outcomes of pregnant women exposed to stavudine and other antiretroviral agents, an Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry has been established. Physicians are encouraged to register patients by calling (800) 258-4263.

Nursing Mothers: Studies in lactating rats demonstrated that stavudine is excreted in milk. Although it is not known whether stavudine is excreted in human milk, there exists the potential for adverse effects from stavudine in nursing infants. Mothers should be instructed to discontinue nursing if they are receiving stavudine. This instruction is consistent with the Centers for Disease Control recommendation that HIV-infected mothers not breast-feed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV infection.

Pediatric Use: Use of stavudine in pediatric patients is supported by evidence from adequate and well-controlled studies of stavudine in adults with additional pharmacokinetic and safety data in pediatric patients.

Adverse events that were reported to occur in 105 pediatric patients receiving

Rx ONLY

ZERIT (stavudine) 2 mg/kg/day for a median of 6.4 months in study ACTG 240 were generally similar to those reported in adults.

Stavudine pharmacokinetics have been evaluated in 25 HIV-infected pediatric patients ranging in age from 5 weeks to 15 years and in weight from 2 to 43 kg after I.V. or oral administration of single doses and BID regimens (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, Table 1 in full prescribing information).

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Adults: ZERIT therapy has been associated with peripheral neuropathy, which can be severe, is dose related, and occurs more frequently in patients being treated with neurotoxic drug therapy, including didanosine, in patients with advanced HIV infection, or in patients who have previously experienced peripheral neuropathy.

Patients should be monitored for the development of neuropathy, which is usually manifested by numbness, tingling, or pain in the feet or hands. Stavudine-related peripheral neuropathy may resolve if therapy is withdrawn promptly. In some cases, symptoms may worsen temporarily following discontinuation of therapy. If symptoms resolve completely, patients may tolerate resumption of treatment at one-half the dose (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION). If neuropathy recurs after resumption of ZERIT, permanent discontinuation of ZERIT should be considered.

When ZERIT is used in combination with other agents with similar toxicities, the incidence of adverse events may be higher than when ZERIT is used alone. Patients treated with ZERIT in combination with didanosine may be at increased risk for adverse events such as pancreatitis, peripheral neuropathy, and liver function abnormalities. (See WARNINGS and PRECAUTIONS.)

Selected clinical events that occurred in adult patients receiving ZERIT in a controlled monotherapy trial (Study A455-019) are provided in Table 1.

Adverse Events	Percent (%)	
	ZERIT (n=412)	zidovudine (200 mg TID) (n=402)
Headache	54	49
Diarrhea	50	44
Peripheral Neurologic Symptoms/Neuropathy	52	39
Rash	40	35
Nausea and Vomiting	39	44

^a Median duration of stavudine therapy = 79 weeks; median duration of zidovudine therapy = 53 weeks.

Pancreatitis was observed in three of the 412 adult patients who received ZERIT in a controlled monotherapy study.

Selected clinical adverse events that occurred in antiretroviral naive adult patients receiving ZERIT from two controlled combination studies are provided in Table 2.

Adverse Events	Percent (%)			
	START 1		START 2	
	ZERIT+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=100) ^a	zidovudine+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=102)	ZERIT+ didanosine+ indinavir (n=102) ^a	zidovudine+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=103)
Nausea	43	63	53	67
Diarrhea	34	16	45	39
Headache	25	26	46	37
Rash	18	13	30	18
Vomiting	18	33	30	35
Peripheral Neurologic Symptoms/Neuropathy	8	7	21	10

^a START 2 compared two triple-combination regimens in 205 treatment-naïve patients. Patients received either ZERIT (40 mg BID) plus didanosine plus indinavir or zidovudine plus lamivudine plus indinavir.

^b Duration of stavudine therapy = 48 weeks.

Pancreatitis resulting in death was observed in one patient who received ZERIT plus didanosine plus indinavir in the START 2 study.

Selected laboratory abnormalities reported in a controlled monotherapy study (Study A455-019) are provided in Table 3.

Parameter	Percent (%)	
	ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=412)	zidovudine (200 mg TID) (n=402)
AST (SGOT)	11	10
ALT (SGPT)	13	11
Amylase	14	13

^a Data presented for patients for whom laboratory evaluations were performed.

^b Median duration of stavudine therapy = 79 weeks; median duration of zidovudine therapy = 53 weeks.

ULN = upper limit of normal.

Selected laboratory abnormalities reported in two controlled combination studies are provided in Tables 4 and 5.

Parameter	Percent of Patients			
	START 1		START 2	
	ZERIT+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=100)	zidovudine+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=102)	ZERIT+ didanosine+ indinavir (n=102)	zidovudine+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=103)
Bilirubin (>2.6 x ULN)	7	6	16	8
SGOT (AST) (>5 x ULN)	5	2	7	7
SGPT (ALT) (>5 x ULN)	6	2	8	5
GGT (>5 x ULN)	2	2	5	2
Lipase (>2 x ULN)	6	3	5	5
Amylase (>2 x ULN)	4	<1	8	2

ULN = upper limit of normal.

Parameter	Percent (%)			
	START 1		START 2	
	ZERIT+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=100)	zidovudine+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=102)	ZERIT+ didanosine+ indinavir (n=102)	zidovudine+ lamivudine+ indinavir (n=103)
Total Bilirubin	65	60	68	55
SGOT (AST)	42	20	53	20
SGPT (ALT)	40	20	50	18
GGT	15	8	28	12
Lipase	27	12	26	19
Amylase	21	13	31	17

Observed During Clinical Practice: The following events have been identified during post-approval use of ZERIT (stavudine). Because they are reported voluntarily from a population of unknown size, estimates of frequency cannot be made. These events have been chosen for inclusion due to their seriousness, frequency of reporting, causal connection to ZERIT, or a combination of these factors.

Body as a Whole: abdominal pain, allergic reaction, and chills/fever.

Digestive Disorders: anorexia.

Hematologic Disorders: anemia, leukopenia, and thrombocytopenia.

Liver: lactic acidosis and hepatic steatosis (see WARNINGS), hepatitis and liver failure.

Musculoskeletal: myalgia.

Nervous: insomnia.

Pediatric Patients: Adverse reactions and serious laboratory abnormalities in pediatric patients were similar in type and frequency to those seen in adult patients.

OVERDOSAGE

Experience with adults treated with 12 to 24 times the recommended daily dosage revealed no acute toxicity. Complications of chronic overdosage include peripheral neuropathy and hepatic toxicity. Stavudine can be removed by hemodialysis; the mean \pm SD hemodialysis clearance of stavudine is 120 \pm 18 mL/min. Whether stavudine is eliminated by peritoneal dialysis has not been studied.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

The interval between doses of ZERIT should be 12 hours. ZERIT may be taken without regard to meals.

Adults: The recommended dose based on body weight is as follows:

40 mg twice daily for patients \geq 60 kg.

30 mg twice daily for patients < 60 kg.

Pediatrics: The recommended dose for pediatric patients weighing less than 30 kg is 1 mg/kg/dose, given every 12 hours. Pediatric patients weighing 30 kg or greater should receive the recommended adult dosage.

Dosage Adjustment: Patients should be monitored for the development of peripheral neuropathy, which is usually manifested by numbness, tingling, or pain in the feet or hands. These symptoms may be difficult to detect in young children (see WARNINGS). If these symptoms develop during treatment, stavudine therapy should be interrupted. Symptoms may resolve if therapy is withdrawn promptly. In some cases, symptoms may worsen temporarily following discontinuation of therapy. If symptoms resolve completely, patients may tolerate resumption of treatment at one-half the recommended dose.

20 mg twice daily for patients \geq 60 kg.

15 mg twice daily for patients < 60 kg.

If neuropathy recurs after resumption of ZERIT, permanent discontinuation of ZERIT should be considered.

Renal Impairment: ZERIT may be administered to adult patients with impaired renal function with adjustment in dose as shown in Table 6.

Creatinine Clearance (mL/min)	Recommended ZERIT Dose by Patient Weight	
	\geq 60 kg	< 60 kg
> 50	40 mg every 12 hours	30 mg every 12 hours
26-50	20 mg every 12 hours	15 mg every 12 hours
10-25	20 mg every 24 hours	15 mg every 24 hours

Since urinary excretion is also a major route of elimination of stavudine in pediatric patients, the clearance of stavudine may be altered in children with renal impairment. Although there are insufficient data to recommend a specific dose adjustment of ZERIT in this patient population, a reduction in the dose and/or an increase in the interval between doses should be considered.

Hemodialysis Patients: The recommended dose is 20 mg every 24 hours (\geq 60 kg) or 15 mg every 24 hours (< 60 kg), administered after the completion of hemodialysis and at the same time of day on non-dialysis days.

Method of Preparation:

ZERIT (stavudine) for Oral Solution

Prior to dispensing, the pharmacist must constitute the dry powder with purified water to a concentration of 1 mg stavudine per mL of solution, as follows:

1. Add 202 mL of purified water to the container.

2. Shake container vigorously until the powder dissolves completely. Constitution in this way produces 200 mL (deliverable volume) of 1 mg/mL stavudine solution. The solution may appear slightly hazy.

3. Dispense solution in original container with measuring cup provided. Instruct patient to shake the container vigorously prior to measuring each dose and to store the lightly colored solution in a refrigerator, 36° to 46°F (2° to 8°C). Discard any unused portion after 30 days.

HOW SUPPLIED

ZERIT® (stavudine) Capsules are available in the following strengths and configurations of plastic bottles with child-resistant closures:

Product Strength	Capsule Shell Color	Markings on Capsule (In Black Ink)	Capsules per Bottle	NOC No.
15 mg	Light yellow & dark red	BMS 1964 15	60	0003-1964-01
20 mg	Light brown	BMS 1965 20	60	0003-1965-01
30 mg	Light orange	BMS 1966 30	60	0003-1966-01
40 mg	Dark orange	BMS 1967 40	60	0003-1967-01

ZERIT® (stavudine) for Oral Solution is a dye-free, fruit-flavored powder that provides 1 mg of stavudine per mL of solution upon constitution with water. Directions for solution preparation are included on the product label and in the DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION section of this insert. ZERIT for Oral Solution (NDC No. 0003-1968-01) is available in child-resistant containers that provide 200 mL of solution after constitution with water.

US Patent No.: 4,978,655

Storage: ZERIT Capsules should be stored in tightly closed containers at controlled room temperature, 59° to 86°F (15° to 30°C).

ZERIT for Oral Solution should be protected from excessive moisture and stored in tightly closed containers at controlled room temperature, 59° to 86°F (15° to 30°C). After constitution, store tightly closed containers of ZERIT for Oral Solution in a refrigerator, 36° to 46°F (2° to 8°C). Discard any unused portion after 30 days.

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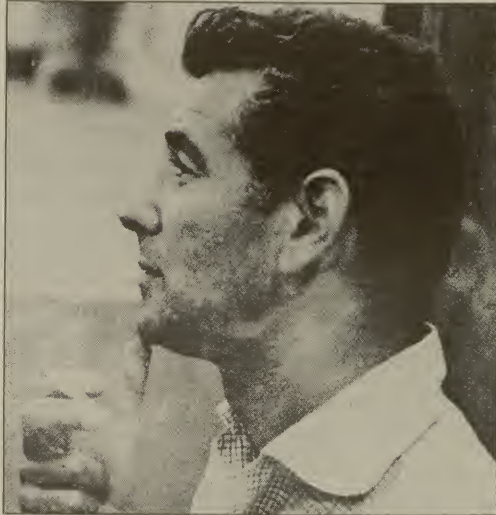
by Jason Serinus

Bernstein Live
New York Philharmonic
Special Editions, \$195

As the year 2000 draws to a close, so does the 10th anniversary of the death of conductor/composer Leonard Bernstein. As a lasting memorial, the New York Philharmonic has recently issued a 10-CD set of never-before-released live Bernstein performances, mostly culled from concerts broadcast during Lenny's 1958-1969 tenure as the NYP's Music Director. While the "live" aspect is not unique — most of Bernstein's commercial performances were recorded before live audiences — the breadth of repertoire and quality of musicianship greatly expand our understanding of Bernstein's greatness.

Since Bernstein commercially recorded all of Mahler's and most of his own compositions, many twice, additional interpretations of those works are not included. Instead, we have such gems as Vladimir Ashkenazy's stunning 1958 New York Philharmonic debut in Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 2 in G minor, Op. 16, predating Ashkenazy's 1970s commercial account with Previn. Equally arresting is Bernstein conducting soprano Eileen Farrell as Brünnhilde in 80 minutes of legendary scenes from Wagner's *Götterdämmerung* (with the Siegfried of tenor Jess Thomas sounding better as the music progresses). In 1970, the 50-year-old Farrell was a wee bit past her peak — her very top, pushed to its limits, sounds a mite edgy — but her combination of heart, passionate sensuality and tonal splendor sets her apart from those two other supreme Brünnhildes of the recorded era, Birgit Nilsson and Kirsten Flagstad. Farrell's gorgeous voice, magnificently supported by Bernstein's glorious, at times orgasmic conducting, makes their *Götterdämmerung*, quite literally, a performance to die for.

In a liner note interview, Farrell explains that "with Lenny, there was very little change from rehearsal to performance. He made everything quite clear, and we did exactly as he told us to do. There was no such thing as, 'Now, you



Conductor/composer Leonard Bernstein: clarity and control.

watch me and follow,' as there was with some conductors. We worked out everything at rehearsal, and that's how we did it at the concert."

Break of dawn

Such clarity and control are apparent in the opening Dawn sequence of *Götterdämmerung's* Prologue, in which Bernstein achieves a positively magical effect as the sun rises above the horizon. Seventeen years later, in his live DG recording of Mahler's Symphony No. 2, he exhibits a similar mastery in the final movement, especially in the last bars, when he holds the orchestra at a point of extreme tension and then allows it to explode into transcendent exaltation. Though Lenny could be excessive at times, especially in his later years, when the combination of cigarettes, alcohol, drugs, ego and declining health left their mark on his music, he had a special understanding of certain composers and pieces of music that made for greatness.

Disc 9 contains almost 80 minutes of 20th-century works, each prefaced by Bernstein's literate comments to his audience. The first selection, Aaron Copland's *An Outdoor Overture* from a 1960 Young People's Concert, lets us hear how wonderful Lenny was

speaking to children. He was equally fine when introducing adults to the pioneering music of their times, alternating between humor, philosophical musings, sarcasm and seriousness in an effort to create openings in what, in many instances, were closed minds. Even his masterful 11:32 introduction to John Cage's 8:12 *Atlas Eclipticalis* could not prevent loud boos at its conclusion, thereby demonstrating once again why many New Yorkers who consider themselves the center of the uni-

verse seem so off-kilter.

Copland is also represented by his wild *Dance Symphony*, an early work whose finale's offbeat and multiple rhythms were written under the influence of Stravinsky's ballets and the general background of ragtime and jazz. Other 20th-century composers include Britten, Barber, Virgil Thomson, Foss, Webern, Hindemith, Schedrin, Stravinsky, Markevitch (his rarely encountered *Icare*), Henze, Xenakis, Brant, Ruggles, Varese and Boulez. Those hungering for more 20th Century fare are referred to the Philharmonic's *American Celebration* box set.

More highlights include Wilhelm Kempff's 1966 Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 3 in C minor, Op. 37; Jacqueline du Pre's 1967 Schumann Cello Concerto in A minor, Op. 129, sounding quite different from her commercial recording with Daniel Barenboim; Lazar Berman's superb Rachmaninoff Piano Concerto No. 3 in D minor, Op. 30; and Maynard Ferguson's screaming trumpet in William Russo's knockout Symphony No. 2 in C major, Op. 32. There's also a zippy 1959 performance of Beethoven's Triple Concerto, featuring Bernstein on piano. That same year, Bernstein on harpsichord joins fellow gay composer John Corigliano on violin, and Laszlo Varga on cello in Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 5 in D major.

Not every performance is ideal. The 1951 World Premiere of Charles Ives' Symphony No. 2, executed years before Lenny gained

the ability to hire and fire orchestra players, is bettered by Bernstein's two later commercial performances. Nor is the Mozart all one would wish. The Overture to *The Magic Flute* could be lighter, while the Andante to Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 23 in A major, K. 488 lacks poetry, Bernstein beating a faster tempo than that which pianist Byron Janis chooses to open the movement. But so much here is either so great or so rare, or both, as to make the set invaluable.

In mostly good sound, this perfect Xmas gift, which includes 486 pages of notes and photos, is available only from Tower Records or the New York Philharmonic. ▼

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Barbara Cook

◀ page 31

the same time."

Leaving home

Cook grew up in Atlanta in the 1930s feeling like an outsider. "I felt so out of place in my hometown," she said. "I used to think it was me. And I realized after I came to New York that it was Atlanta."

Cook was 20 when she and her mother headed for New York for what was ostensibly a two-week visit. "But I just packed everything I owned," she said. "And I said, 'Mom, I'm not coming back.' It must have been very hard for her, because my mother and father were divorced and I was an only child. But it was just something I knew I had to do."

She supported herself as a statistical typist while making the auditions rounds. "I just typed columns of numbers all day," she said. "It was not fun."

But three years after arriving from Atlanta, Cook landed her

first Broadway show, an odd and whimsical musical called *Flahooley*. It lasted only eight weeks, but Cook was noticed. She worked steadily from then on, creating roles on Broadway in *Plain and Fancy*, *Candide*, *The Music Man*, and *She Loves Me*. *The Grass Harp*, which had a short run in 1971, was her last Broadway musical.

"I miss the theater to a certain extent," she said. "I love what I'm doing now, but I think being in a book show uses more of me than cabaret or concerts. Maybe that's why I see songs as acting events."

It took decades, Cook said, for her to come to terms with her own worth. "I'm still working on it," she said. "Of course I know I'm very good at what I do, and I know that I can reach people in profound ways. But I tend not to throw my weight around, if you know what I mean." ▼

Barbara Cook will sing *Mostly Sondheim* at the Geary Theatre at 8 p.m. Dec. 29-30, and 7 & 10 p.m. Dec. 31. Tickets are \$14-\$65. Call 749-2228.

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PARTING GLANCES

Thai House On Market Fri 11/10
Your smile made for difficult dining, maybe next time we can be seated at the same table? ☎ 72615

VA Hospital Cowboy
I saw you in lobby we nodded to each other. I'd really like to talk interest-ed? Call. ☎ 72634

David Designer From Oakland
Martini Monday 11/6. I was going to dinner with my boyfriend, you with your brother. I am now single. Wish we had talked more. Call me. ☎ 72613

White Vespa Boy, One Year Ago
Eastbound on 18th, late afternoon 12:21:59. Me: leather jacket, Honda, spaced when you pulled over despite your sparkling fuck-me stare. Call if this isn't too bizarre (or bizarre enough). ☎ 72702

"Got Candy?"
You: Black guy riding 38 Geary 11-12 5:30pm. We both got off at Presidio. Looked for you and lost you. Me: blue backpack. Call me! ☎ 72614

Handsome Grayhair Man At Zuni
11/9, 6pm, across from each other in bar. You met friends for dinner. I met friends for drinks. We exchanged glances, and smiled when you left after dinner. I think you're sexy. Dinner at Zuni sometime? ☎ 72618

Lyle And Evan Burritos On 24th St
Hey buddy- enjoyed our time, let's get together. ☎ 72633

Sun 11/26 Jubilee Cafe
You in yellow shirt, if not engaged, would like to meet! ☎ 72654

Vincent-Thu11/30 Daddys+ Detour
We talked about movies and I enjoyed kissing you. You are very cute. I would still like to watch "Less Than Zero", with you, maybe more kissing too! Pls call. Eric. ☎ 72703

Gdiking Guy Driving Black Jetta
Wednesday 11/8 at 4:45pm north bound on 19th Ave. Short beard beautiful smile. Me, flat top, driving silver Daihatsu, racing thru traffic. Call me! ☎ 72617

Dore Castro St. Tues 11/14 9pm
We chatted- would like to continue conversation and catch up. Please call, Bill. ☎ 72635

Trader Joe's Friday 11/10
We smiled at check-out, you turned as you made your exit. Me: WM, tall, black jacket, goatee; you: BM, glasses, short hair. Wanna meet for coffee? ☎ 72650

"Fuzzylogic" Opening 11/17
You were upstairs. Me down. We smiled. No time then to talk. Have time now. Call me. ☎ 72651

19 Polk 12:30 Tues Aft 11/21
Blond, 30s, newspaper. You: 30s, also in leather jacket, v. handsome, sat w/me. Asked time, you thought I was leaving; U smiled, said "take care" when I did, @ Market. Mutual frisson? ☎ 72652

Day B4 Tgiving Bart 1pm
You: tall, red shirt w/2 women. Me: shorter w/lt. brown hair, glasses. You got off at 16th/ Mission & said "so long". Wanna meet? ☎ 72653

Blow Buddies Sun Nov 19
You: No clothes, shaved head, goatee, working over stud on chair. Me: bushy moustache, Lewis, green, blue coca-cola sweatshirt. Let's meet? ☎ 72655

The Rhino, 10/15 Matinee
You: Tall Asian in khaki cap, sat with friends. Me: White in purple shirt, sat alone. Exchanged glances in the theatre, waved afterwards walking away. ☎ 72656

A. H. Fitzgerald
We shared one afternoon of unbridled passion in S.F. Circumstances stopped me from contacting you afterward. Hoping rekindle the flame. C. ☎ 72657

Home Depot Sun 11/26 8:30am
You: tall, dark, thin, white sweat-pants. Me: short, dark, moustache, jeans. Top struck by your good looks to speak. Call if ok with HIV+ men. ☎ 72658

18th & Castro Shirtless Dancer Oct 31
You were on bus stop booth with no shirt, dancing. It was Castro Halloween. I screamed at you. I wore a devil shirt. Interested? ☎ 72680

Met At Powerhouse!
You, blond, 23, Musician, DJ, Dot-com me, 53, Provincetown, Howard Johnson's. Let's create magic. ☎ 72681

The Cafe, Sat Nov. 25
You: cute smile blue shirt, dark hair goatee, pool table upper bar. Me: blk hair, blk goatee dk red sweater w/stripes. Would like to see you again, call me. ☎ 72699

Glances At The Rhino 10/15
You: tall Asian w/ khaki cap; me white in purple shirt. Exchanged glances across the audiences, waves after the show, matinee on 10/15. ☎ 72616

Fifth & Sixth Fused
Maybe more in common. Three of us in your Miata from Power Exchange to my house. Wanted you to stay. ☎ 72700

UCBerkeleyPerimeterBus 12/7/5p
Our stop Bar. Me: jeans, grey coat guy with friend in back. You: grey sweater, cargo pants guy. Our eyes met. You smiled as you left the bus and I smiled. ☎ 72701

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Lonely? Looking For A Friend?
Shy GWM, 57, 5'10", 165#, In San

Francisco looking for companionship with another man who may or may not have the same problem getting to know other people. ☎ 72619

Asian Guys In Stockings
Lingerie and heels turn me on! Butch WM, 40, 6ft 2 in, 200lb, seeks HIV neg dream girl with wardrobe for dating, safe fun. Be sweet, sincere. ☎ 72620

Classy Hndsm GWM 36 Seeks TLR
Me- attractive masc/muscular 6'1", 180, 44" chest, 32" wst, HIV-neg Bar-tender/student, tired of bar scene, loves music U-drk hair, drk eyes, warm heart, attractive, witty. ☎ 72621

Please...
Fuck me hard, then deep your beautiful cock into my hot throat for romance with White top 30-50. Scorpio, Cancer, Aries preferred. Thank you. ☎ 72636

Shy Cute German 34yo Top Artist
Blond, blue hairy, 6'1", 160 uncut. ISO crazy-like Asian, Black, Latino, or other for unlimited fun! Horny? Don't wait call me now. ☎ 72637

Bi-Monthly Visitor
Slim masculine WM 43 would like to meet the same or younger for talks, walks, films, meals, and naked intimacy, on weekends. ☎ 72638

"I Need Your Vote(s)!"
To win Bay Area best cocksucker crown (I'm ex-captain U.S. Olympic cocksucking team!) Knock-sox-off demos for you/ buddies: let's get it/them, out/ up/ off! ☎ 72639

Heart & Soul Hunk. Amen!
Bubbly quick-witted unpretentious, 37, 6'1", 175# br/gr clean shaven, Dutch background, HIV-. Publishing Entrepreneur, own flat, hike, swim, cook, massage, cocktail, cuddle, versatile. Artistic sensibility. Well-endowed in more ways than one. ☎ 72659

How About Some Bump & Grind?
GBM top 50 needs GWM bottom 50ish for hot sex and hanging out at my place, must be beefy and enjoy taking it. Smoke and aroma A+. ☎ 72660

Intelligent BDSM In Oakland
Seeking fit submissive, little experience ok. mild start, gradual progression per mutual interests. Substance more than image. Sex unlikely, no drugs. Fit solid WM 54, 5'8" bald, beard. ☎ 72661

Seeking Big Ones
Handsome GWM- blk/hazel: great body. Sweet ass. Seeks GWM with a big fat one to plow me, deep & slow. No disappointments. ☎ 72662

Nellie Top ISO LTR
Single GWM 50's HIV- top fra/p 6' 200# smoker non gym big hearted, grounded looking for single gay male w/good nature and cut tool for BJ, ass plowing, romance. ☎ 72663

GWM, 25, 6'2", Slim, Attractive
W/ quick, cynical mind wildly varied interests, seeks similar: HIV-, don't need to respond to ads, mature. No Castro clones, good personality, be interesting, 23-27. ☎ 72664

Not Looking For A 10
Not even a 7. What I am looking for is an average guy 30 & 40? Oriental? White? This 48yr. W/M in SJ. would like to meet you. Let's do some dating and if it works out, start a long term relationship. You must be willing to relocate. ☎ 72682

HIV+ Black Male Or Latino
Wanted by HIV+ blond/blue 5'10", 150lbs versatile bottom. 44yrs genuinely honest and loving, you be the same, I live in Paradise near Chico, am willing to travel, please call me. ☎ 72683

Seeking Other Hardbodies
5-9 145 38c 29" w wash brd. abs smooth, tan, handsome, 47y.o. seeks same for ltr. Sex, & wrk out. ☎ 72684

European GWM
29, 5'10", 165 seeking committed, honest, sensitive, intellectual GWM, 27-35 for monogamous ltr. No gym, dotcom, feminine types. Serious only! ☎ 72685

Bruiser Bottom Wanted
Older but hung toman wants a husky bottom guy flat on his back, legs in the air, ready for a raw pounding. Moustache/ but no other facial hair/a turn-on. ☎ 72686

Monogamous Muscular Man
Seeks GM for dating in S.F. I'm Asian, young 50, 5'7", 150#, HIV-neg., into working out, body worship/tit play. NS, ND, no anal. ☎ 72687

Seeking Asian Boyfriend
Muscular GWM 43, sensitive, in very good shape is wishing to date a smooth, in-shape Asian 25-50. No games or B.S. Please only serious minded, long term. ☎ 72689

Top Fuckbuddy Wanted
GWM, HIV+, 36yrs, bottom, seeks HIV+. Hot top for erotic hot safe sex. Me, br, hzl, 6'1", love br, br, 50's but not required. ☎ 72690

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"Rich Gold Gym Dude!"

You have come over to my apartment on Parker Avenue. Somehow, I didn't have chance to talk to you. I would like to meet you again. Please call. P.S. would you mind collecting my English? **72704**

Looking For Real Nice Fun Mate
Handsome, youngish, HIV- 35 GWM/ half Colombian. Fun, cuddly, spontaneous sagittarian. Slim, drk brn. You: late 20's-30's, light eyes, Northern Europeanish, tall, lanky, gentlemanly, monogamous. No heavy drugs. **72688**

Lonely? Looking For A Friend?
Shy GWM, 57, 5'10", 165# in San Francisco looking for companionship with another man who may or may not have the same problem getting to know other people. **72705**

SF 69er Sought
Me: GWM 49 5'9" lean athletic (runner, hiker) 6' cut HIV- bearded bald witty friendly enjoys quiet. Seeks: possible clean, low-key younger man for mutual oral sex. **72706**

Quality Asian-American, 34, 5'8"
Slim, gym-toned, independent, stable, down to earth. Interests include gardening, travel, reading, learning. Seeking friendship and possible ltr. Prefer 28-40. Race unimportant. Sincere only please. **72707**

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Masculine Manpussy 4 Hung Tops
Male white, 35, loves to party, seeks domination by 1 to 4 thick hung tops. Me, oral, versatile, in-shape, nice cock. Possible bondage/ dildo/FF. I love come. East Bay A+. **72622**

Poz GBM Sks GWM Top
38, 165lb, 6ft, smooth, masculine but submissive behind closed doors. Don't be PC. Tell me how you want me to take it. **72623**

"I Am One Of A Kind!"
My throat is like butter, deep throat-bell, 37, tatts, shaved head (-) 185lbs seeks masculine man to service(-). **72624**

"Spank Me!" Cute Little Fratboy
24 needs over the knee action from dominant big brother or daddy. Gym body in the Castro. Bottom boy. **72625**

Handsome Hung Italian
Super endowed 10" seeks another HIV negative extremely well hung man for oral sex. **72644**

ISO Poz Marin/Sonoma FuckBuddy
For fun or poss. ltr. 51yo GWM, 5'10", 160lbs, s/p buzz, mustache, uncult ISO earthy guy who enjoys vers. oral sex and fucking a hot bottom. **72626**

Total Anal Bottom Bear
Caucasian, 49, stocky, 5'10", 195#, talented asshole for your fucking pleasure! Shaved head, hairy, beard on my belly-waiting for you to cum, on top of me! **72627**

Asian Top
Sought by healthy, muscular, athletic, attractive poz GWM, 6', 165lb. 47yo. Safe only. Fun for sure. **72640**

"Top, Wants To Be Topped!"
Blue collar masc WM 45 looks about 41, smooth, broad shoulders, must /Van Dyke side burns/ seeks very hairy slender to med/ build under 5'6" to take control. HIV- **72641**

Bottom Hot Latino 30's Likes To Suck
a big dick, also get fucked. Redwood City area. Nice ass, nice legs. Please call me. **72642**

Hot White Bottoms Need By
White top, 6'0", 55yrs old, drk brn hair, eyes glasses 9" dick, 160lbs. Want to fuck hot young White men under 40. Leave message. **72643**

Hot Cock And Ass 4 U
White versatile, E/B, slender, 5'8", 155, 50's HIV-, seeks tops with 6"+ and slender, hairless bottom, HIV-, safe sex, no drugs, any age, race or marital status. Asians A+. **72645**

SR GWM ISO Mature GBM
For massage J/O, I'm 5'9" 155# affectionate average cut, bearded. You're 45+ fit/healthy. Medium to beefy. Shaved head, facial hair A+. **72665**

Bodybuilder Phone J/O
Bodybuilder into bodyworship, muscle, flexing. Posing, weightlifting, wrestling, in jock or posing trunks, nude. Call with your fantasy. 5'9", 195, 46ch, 16a. **72666**

"Got Cheese!"
GWM 50, 6' loves man smells any age race. 7" or more. Long over hang a real plus. **72667**

Dominant Older Man Will Train
A glib/s submissve 18-40 boy to serve him as a son or slave. Limits respected. On-going preferred. Daddy-master is mid 70's, attr; young looking and acting. **72668**

GAM 30's Back In Town
Looking for GWM 30-43 for hot times. If interested please call. **72694**

Hunky Underwear Fanatic Sks Same
Hairy, built GWM seeks similar SF hunk for mutual underwear fetishes, nightgown work, long 69 sessions. I'm 5'11", 180, 50, totally oral, healthy poz. You're hairy chested, tall in-shape, 40+, totally oral too. Prefer average size dick. Let's get it on while wearing /, trading, sniffing, talking about our boxers, briefs, jockstraps. Repeat desired if chemistry, attraction, compatibility. **72669**

I Love My Dad! 5'9" 200lbs 42
GWM seeks very hairy daddy-types 40-60 for romance and fun. Very oral, affectionate & cute. Must have fun & outgoing personality. **72670**

Looking To Service Older Guys
Healthy HIV+ GWM, 40, br/bl, 165lbs, 5'8" in Oakland, wants to service guys 46-60. Muscular, hairy, hung, well-built A+. **72671**

Kinda Shy Guy
HIV+ Black male 42, medium build, enjoy movies, dancing, walks at night, playtime-always! Looking for 38-up, HIV+ males looking for someone like me. All types welcome. **72672**

Free Massage
From bottom daddy, GWM, 42, 6', 165lbs. Ital/Germ, brown/hazel, beard given to lean top boy 18-35. Dark hair and/or facial hair a plus. **72691**

East Bay Mature Academic
Appreciative of nude male body seeks gay, straight, bi exhibitionist or curious, 25-50, for private encounters his peaceful private home. **72692**

Heavyset Men
WLM 45, 160lbs, moderately hry. I'm attracted to husky/heavysset men who enjoy lots of hugging, kissing & oral action. Facial hair A+. Not into gay lifestyle. **72693**

Bottom Need's F.F
Ball's need S/M, be tormented, ass needs spanking and exploring. I am clean HIV- bi WM 5'2", 120 shaved, and a experienced cocksucker, stay over nite. Sacramento, aroma/herbs L/A ok. **72708**

Sexy Older (54-67) For Cute 28
East Bay, athletic, slim, trim, 6', 160# with satin smooth skin and bubble buns youngest 28 seeks naughty older men. Younger Latinos welcome. **72709**

Into Rimming?
Have a lover, seeking a rimming buddy for mutual ass eating. Me: GWM, 53yrs, 5'8", 175#. You: GWM and discreet. Clean, no scat, your place in SF only. HIV+ **72710**

A Rubbery Adventure
Attractive blonde, mid 40's, HIV positive, seeks similar W/male to explore the rubber scene. I've got lots of leather-and rubber gear. You should too. East Bay/S.F. **72712**

Dry Face Needs Hot Cum Bath
Masculine WM 58 seeking senior citizens. Let me get between your legs and jerk off your cock directing your cum all over my face. **72713**

I'm Lost In Orlando!
Formerly known as "Pete" in the window on Sanchez Street, I have relocated to Orlando. If you're planning to visit, leave me a message. I'll give you what you need! **72713**

Dominant Male, 39 Seeking
Part time house slave. Must be detail oriented & eager to please. Age & looks not important. **72714**

Big, Husky, Chubby, Fat
GBM, 47yo, 5'11", 250lbs, big chest, hung seeks big, fat, & chubby men for uninhibited sex. You must be my size or bigger. Discretion a must. **72715**

Big Dick Top Seeks Hot Bottom
GWM, 45, 6'3", 185 brn, grn with big fat dick looking for cute guys who like a big cock up their butt. **72716**

Flood Bldg Buddy Wanted
Professional GWM, working in Flood Building, is looking for a building buddy for AM coffee, drinks after work, sex over lunch (not necessarily in that order). **72718**

FETISHES

F.F My Little Ass
Bi WM needs be F.F slow live in Woodland. I'm HIV- very clean and great cocksucker. Like S/M, toys, video's, aroma/ herbs, age/race open. Drive up or take a train!! Serious only. **72628**

Servant...
Polite, courteous man is dutiful and eager to please a master/man without question or exception. **72630**

"Spread That Ass!"
GWM 38yo, 158#, 5'10", uncult, low hanging balls, red hair, ISO butt to eat and piss to drink. Kinky man seeking others. **72631**

Smooth Submissive Wanted
SWM, 38, blonde, smooth, gym-toned in Pacific Heights, seeks submissive, smooth, boyish boyfriend, 18-28, for pussyboy sex slave, verbal abuse and humiliation. No ballroom dancing. **72646**

Daytime-Asshole Eater!
Get your asshole eaten by a pro!!! **72647**

Your Hair Is Blond, Your Eyes
Are blue, your ass is smooth, I'll kiss it for you. Wear boots and jeans, I'll lick them clean. **72648**

Diaper Boy ISO Daddy LTR
I am 38yo Irish, 5'11" 190 brown hair, h2l eyes seeking a daddy. You be over 45 heavy or stocky, like diaper boys, spanking fun. **72673**

Big & Smelly Feet Wanted
By 27yo Latino foot bottom. I'll suck and worship your feet while you jerk-off. I love dick too. Please be masculine with big feet. **72674**

Holiday Pounds Adding Up?
Chubby? Stocky? Got a belly? Trim encourager seeks guy who wants to grow a gut. Let me feed you. Forget fit, I like you fat. **72675**

Seeking Serious Workout Buddy
I'm a 46yr old stocky 190# serious nipple-pig with huge erect nipples. Brn/brn, salt & pepper goatee, tats & piercing, smoker ISO safer masc, muscular dominant nip pig "daddy" for serious wk outs. with growth in mind. Please call. Smoker ++. **72676**

S&M Top, Bear, 50, Trains Boys!
You: 20's, in-shape, any race. Pluses: shorts, swimmers, gymnast, Asian, novice. Bondage, TT, CBT, hotwax, spankings, shaving. Limits respected and expanded. Take it like a man! **72629**

Body Shaving
Part or complete your limits respected free no money exchanged either way. Just enjoyment. Concord area leave message. **72677**

Paddle Poker
Boots, jockstraps, frat paddles. High hand gives, low hand gets. Group forming. All men into paddling welcome. **72678**

Sexy Big And Black
If you are Black, horny, big chested and ready for some hot fun, I'm ready for you. I'm hot, handsome and hungry for a big Black man. **72695**

Daytime Asshole Eater!!
Get your asshole eaten by a pro!!! **72696**

Knocked Around And Bruised
And humiliated and degraded. That's what this slim healthy 58-years old needs from in-charge guy. You come and I take it and don't come. **72697**

Hungry Fist Seek Pig Hole
29yo, ft seeks exp. bottoms into heavy duty punch fucking. Let's turn your hole into a loose sloppy wet mess and make those lips sag and rosebud bloom. **72719**

Mutual Spanking...
Hard, bare-hand slapping & strapping partner wanted. 50's man 5-7, 165. We leave marks. **72720**

Turtleneck Sweaters
Winter's almost here and it's my time of year. Nothing gets me off more than guys with facial hair in ribbed turtlenecks. Looking for others who share this fetish. **72721**

Asshole Rimmer Wanted By WM
47, 6', 170 exc shape HIV+. You must be bottom. Prefer Black, Asian HIV+. **72722**

Can You Provide?
GWM 40, 175, 6'1", VGL ISO young ranch top to use & abuse me. Verbal & uncult A+. Into waste, snot, cum, WS, & a ripe hole to worship. River location. **72723**

COUPLES

2 Intense For One
Masc WM 6'3" 215 smooth 45 blue collar, must Van Dyke side burns, seeks two tops to get n bed. Prefer hairy. Want to be taken down, HIV-. **72649**

OTHER

"San Fran Hottest Studs!"
GBM 33, 180#, solid, smooth, stache, masc. musc & GWM 35, tan, 190#, shaved head, body builder build, looking for some sexual hot male to make action. The more the merrier. Call "Won't be disappointed!" **72632**

Walking/Hiking
Recent non-smoker, 44, seeks companion on rural hikes and urban walks. **72679**

Take Turns. Mature Competitions.
Two men, naked in close proximity, spank & slap hard & firm each other's buttocks. Other eroticism encouraged. TT & CB etc.. **72698**

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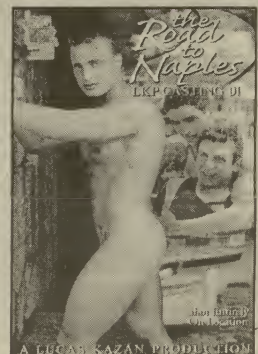
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Holiday hum-along

A plethora of Christmas albums

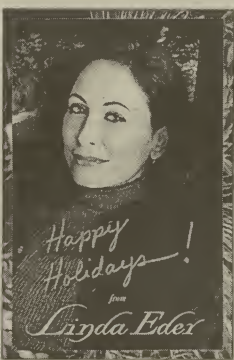
by Gregg Shapiro

New and original winter holiday music seems to be in short supply. Not that there's anything wrong with the traditional tunes we've been singing from one year to the next. If they were good enough for our ancestors, they're good enough for us! The trick for a singer, of course, is to make the old songs sound as good as new. Last year, Jewel attempted to do that with mixed results.

As someone who is on a never-ending quest for the unusual and the obscure when it comes to music, especially holiday music, my favorite Christmas album of the year would have to be *Joyeux Mutato* (Rhino/Mutato Muzika) by Mark Mothersbaugh. You may recognize Mothersbaugh's name from his years as a founding member of Devo, or from the soundtracks he has composed for several movies and television shows (including *The Rugrats*). In the liner notes, Mothersbaugh writes, "This album is for anyone who has ever been traumatized by the Christmas season and is intended to provide solace and shelter from the ensuing onslaught of overheated holiday situations." How thoughtful. Original electronic instrumental numbers such as "Blue Joy," "Midnight Wind-Up Toy," "Bell Boy," "Only 12 Shopping Days Left," "Peace and Good-

will" and "Let There Be Snow" are winter wonderful.

For the last couple of winter holiday seasons, uber-diva Linda Eder has released singles that brought much holiday cheer to her fans, but left the lingering question of when we might expect a full-length album of this type of music. On *Christmas Stays the Same* (Atlantic), Linda Eder answers that question in her own special way. Comparisons to Streisand's classic *A Christmas Album* are inevitable, but both albums should be listened to and appreciated separately. Eder's interpretations are, on the whole, of a more serious nature. Renditions of "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," "The Christmas Song," "Silent Night,"



Linda Eder: gifts to her fans.

"Ave Maria" and a gospel-inflected "O Holy Night" are done in traditional versions. Jazzy versions of "Here Comes Santa Claus"/"Santa Claus Is Coming to Town" (Manhattan, apparently, judging by the vamps from "New York, New York" and "Rhapsody In Blue") and "The Christmas Medley" ("I'll Be Home for Christmas," "Let It Snow," "Silver and Gold") should be considered gifts to that sector of her fan base. More exotic versions of songs such as "Little Drummer Boy" and "Do You Hear What I Hear" show that Eder respects the material and is also willing to take rewarding risks with it.

Church music

Young opera singer Charlotte Church, the Christina Aguilera of the classical set, also chimes in with *Dream a Dream* (Sony Classical), an album of Christmas carols. The real appeal of this album depends on how you feel about opera. As a gay man who can honestly say that he doesn't like opera in the least, I am pleased to report that this album was both a pleasant surprise and a welcome addition to the seemingly endless supply of holiday music available for your Christmas party. Although some songs sound silly sung in Church's soprano register (just listen to "The Christmas Song"), her appropriately respectful versions of "The Little Drummer Boy," "The Coventry Carol (Lullay Lullay)," "Joy to the World," "Ave

Maria" and "Silent Night" sound perfectly natural. Church's continual attempt at mainstream acceptance reaches holiday heights with "Dream a Dream (Elysium)," a duet with fellow youthful rising star Billy Gilman which borrows heavily from a Gabriel Faure composition.

Speaking of Christina Aguilera, when she sings, "This Christmas is going to be a very, very special Christmas," in her cover of Donny Hathaway's "This Christmas," she isn't kidding. After spending a good deal of time at the top of the charts, she closed out the year with the release of her first Spanish-language album, as well as her first holiday music disc, *My Kind of Christmas* (RCA). The first two

songs, "Christmas Time" and "This Year" (which was co-written by Christina), would be right at home on Aguilera's debut disc because they ooze blue-eyed Star Search soul. The young diva wisely chose more conventional and familiar material for the remainder of the disc and holds her own throughout. For example, her performance of such seasonal standards as "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" and "Oh Holy Night" easily rival Eder's versions. Her bluesy duet with Dr. John on "Merry Christmas, Baby" shows that she's maturing into a versatile vocalist. Both the traditional version and last year's Thunderpuss remix of "The Christmas Song" are included here as well. ▼

Lavender Tube

◀ page 36

tractive). What a concept.

Token chicks

Speaking of lesbians, who are those chicks on *Queer as Folk*? They're like the token blacks on all-white sitcoms (or the Bush Cabinet) — window-dressing to make the producers think they're being inclusive. Speaking of tokens, shouldn't we see an occasional person of color, at least in the gym, in this show? Is there anything more white on TV? QAF reminds us of how *Ellen* was set in Los Angeles (with a 65% non-white population), but had no people of color in it. It's as if producers can't have both queers and people of color on the same show, because it might push the audience over the liberal edge. Please.

QAF is already, pardon the pun, sooooo overexposed. We haven't heard so much talk about a little oral sex since the Lewinsky scandal. And may we reiterate that, like *Normal*, *Ohio* and *Bette*, the other big queer TV items this season, it simply isn't funny. The

dialogue is vapid, the one-liners fall flatter than old Henny Youngman jokes, and all the boys (and the smart one and the kid) look and sound exactly alike. We think it should be called *Queer as Clone*. Any resemblance to the edgy, sharp, *sensual* (yes, that's different from simply fucking on-screen) British original is purely accidental. The relationship between Tony and Simon on *EastEnders* (check your PBS listings for weekly show times) is far deeper, sexier and realistic. *Will & Grace* is far funnier. Porn is far hotter.

Will we ever see a representative queer show on TV? Or does our salivating on the shoes and butt-holes of producers who toss us some mini-queer morsels preclude this, because the network execs know we'll take whatever used rubber they toss us?

Finally, our quote of the week comes from our pal Bill Maher on *Politically Incorrect*. At the "healing" church service post-coup, the minister talked about Jesus and then he talked about Dubya. Maher quipped, "Apparently the theme was sons who get their jobs through their dads."

Blasphemy? You be the judge. ▼

Schnabel

◀ page 37

To reach over slowly... and touch his thigh... to masturbate him right then and there during an old American movie, to see how he would ejaculate, and then leave before the movie ended."

Schnabel resembles a latter-day Friar Tuck who's taken a solemn vow never to turn off his cell phone. My questions about just how much sex made it into his movie were interrupted not once but twice by an incoming call from some mysterious Australian. Schnabel was not in the least bit contrite. "I remember your question. I don't know if he had sex with 5,000 guys or not, because I wasn't there. But he did write, while in prison (and I wasn't there, either), that he abstained from sex because sex without freedom was humiliating. Reinaldo equated sex with freedom. He had what Cabrera Infante called 'pansexuality.' I mean, this guy had sex with trees, dirt, the rivers, rain. He was like Walt Whitman in that he was one with nature. Early in the film, my son Vito plays Reinaldo as a teenager, and there's a scene where he's in the woods looking at these men swimming naked in a river. You can see that he's fascinated by the way their bodies look, that it's a big deal to him."

Schnabel warms a bit to my question about Johnny Depp's daring cameos as the lascivious prison prostitute Bon Bon, and as the sadistic secret police torturer, the dapper Lieutenant Victor, who makes a big show of stroking his dick during their sessions. "The fact is that the person who is his vision of beauty and also the smuggler of his work to freedom is also the instrument of his torture, the foot on the back of his neck. Reinaldo wrote that one

character could be three different people, and sometimes a man could be a woman. There's always this kind of ambiguity that he used in a very poetic way. Some of the poetic license I took. Bon Bon and Lieutenant Victor are from Arenas' novel *The Color of Summer*, they were not the same character.

"Either Bon Bon was doing a lot of sexual favors to get such a nice blonde wig, or he ran the prison. The fact that Reinaldo would get in trouble immediately after this smuggling thing with Bon Bon makes you think that maybe Bon Bon and Lieutenant Victor had something to do with each other."

On Depp: "He looked like Monica Vitti when he had the blonde wig on. With the red wig, like Sophia Loren."

Free spirit

Javier Bardem, who plays Reinaldo and is starting to rack up major critics' awards for a seamless portrayal of a free spirit, says, "I come from Spain. We like sex. I don't like men, I like women, but we like sex, we are free in that sense." Bardem says the only really difficult time for him came the last day of shooting, when he had to play Arenas dying of AIDS in a New York walkup apartment. "I haven't known anybody who died of AIDS, so I asked two persons who were already sick, but then I changed my mind, because I wanted to show respect for them. It's not fair, not for any movie, to go to a person who is dying, to watch his face, his behavior. I did not want to violate the privacy of the people they told me to go see."

Bardem found a solution by renting *Silverlake Life: The View From Here*, a 1993 documentary in which a gay couple films their odyssey with the disease. "It was so hard, that movie about a cou-

ple [filming] each other. All the work I did [playing the dying Reinaldo] was based on that. I saw it three times. I almost died watching it."

Schnabel delivers his curtain line for media gigs: a quote from Arenas illustrating the ironies of going from being fucked over by Castro to being fucked over in New York by dying of AIDS without insurance. "At least he got to speak his mind [in NY]. I think he didn't know he was broke until he had to deal with capitalism. He said, 'The difference between the communist system and the capitalist system is that in the communist system when they give you a kick in the ass you have to applaud, but in the capitalist system you can scream.'"

As Schnabel and Bardem prepare to depart, I throw out the last question: about the small cameo by Sean Penn as a Cuban peasant who gives the young Reinaldo a ride to the Revolution. Schnabel puffs up, "Sean's a good friend of mine, and he wanted to support this project. He loved the script, but he didn't have much time, so he flew down to Mexico for a day."

Bardem pipes in, "He saw the movie, yesterday." Schnabel beams. "Yeah, he thought it was one of the best films he's ever seen, or certainly one of the best films in the last 10 years. He said Javier was one of the best actors walking on the planet."

Bardem laughs, "Which for me is like hearing from an apostle of God. God is Al Pacino, Sean Penn is an apostle who reached me with his hand."

The director pauses to pat his Schnabel on a picture he hates, one that makes him look like a fat friar who's being punished by God. Whipping out a felt pen, he draws himself the wings of an angel. ▼

Book Report

◀ page 42

bian. When the principal of an alternative school is found murdered, the police have no problem believing the hostile white kid who insists that he saw a black teenager running out of the office just at the moment of the murder. The boy is arrested, and the DA is aching to destroy him. Enter PI Darcy, whose close friend is aunt to the prime suspect, and who agrees, reluctantly, to investigate a live police case, a big no-no in PI land. If that weren't enough to cause serious trouble, Meg also has to deal with her recovering-from-injury girlfriend, and her mother, who decides to swoop down on the household to help. *Mommy Dearest* is a fun read, but there is much more than just dyke drama to hold a reader's interest.

Jackie Calhoun moved to Bella Books from Naiad, and her first novel for her new house is pretty good. *Off Season* (\$11.95) is the tale of two women (surprise!) who are trying, slowly and painfully, to get past personal tragedy and get on with life. And if there might be a chance for a romance, well, that's just dandy, too. Jenny and Rita are trying to find themselves in a small town in Wisconsin, each wondering whether to trust any-

one again. What makes this novel more than just a romance, however, is Calhoun's willingness to take the narrative past the falling in love phase, into the short tempers, personal space and other issues that can do so much damage to a fledgling relationship.

Linda Hill stayed at Naiad (along with Claire McNab and Karin Kallmaker), and her new novel is also a fun read. *Treasured Past* (\$11.95) is a journey into the nasty side of corporate law. Its hero is Kate Brennan, who has so serious a case of burn-out, thanks to a stint in a family practice, that she shuts down altogether and focuses solely on her corporate clients, and the antiques she loves to collect. But who is that woman who seems to show up at every auction, and outbid Kate more often than not? What will Kate do when she is ordered to represent her boss's son in a divorce case against his newly lesbian wife? Will Kate make the move from mahogany to oak? All this and more is resolved in an easy-going novel that is a pleasant way to while away the hour or so it takes to read it. ▼


If you have gossip, inquiries or information of a literary nature, send them to DeborahPeifer@msn.com, or via snail mail to the B.A.R.

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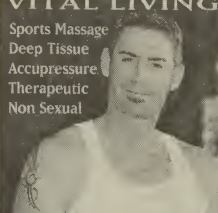
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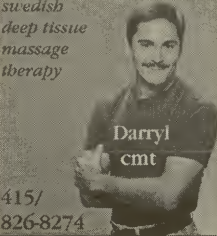
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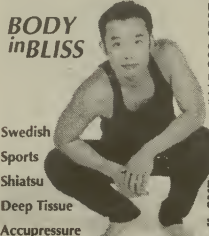
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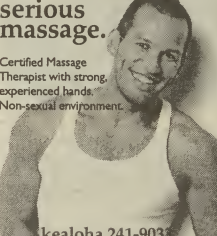
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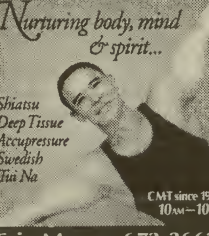
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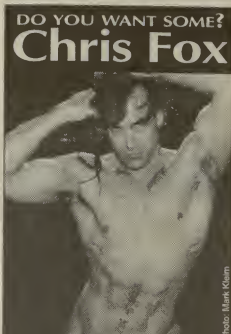


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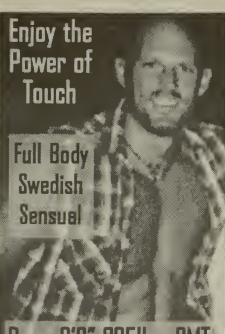
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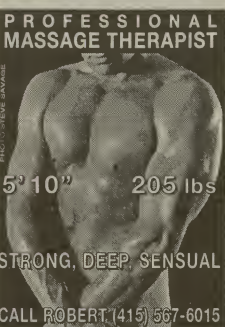
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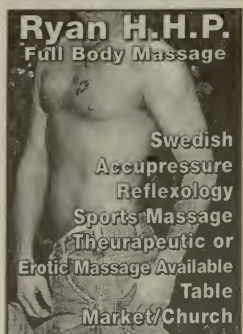
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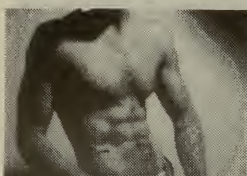
SO THEN I SAYS TO HER, "SHEILA," I SAYS, "I NEED MY TUPPERWARE BACK," AND SHE'S ALL, WELL YOU KNOW SHEILA...

UGH! SHE IS SOOO LIKE THAT!
I WONDER IF THESE PANTS MAKE ME LOOK HIPPIY.

Image courtesy of Tom of Finland Co.

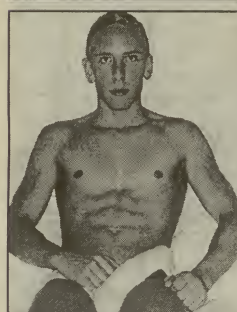
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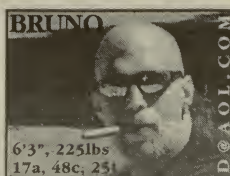
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looks and well endowed also
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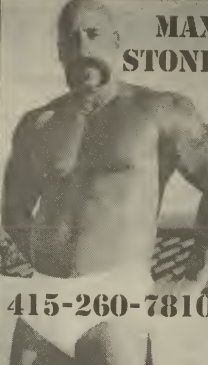
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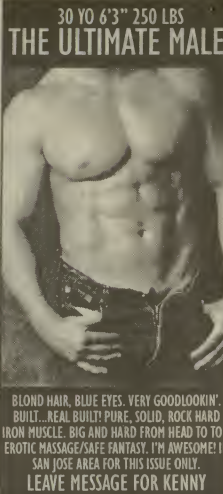
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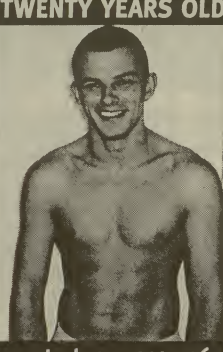
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Feet, Sox, Boots, tickling, Foot Fun SF Foot Party line (415) 995-9593

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(NOT sponsored by Coors Beer)
Mr. North Coast Leather T. Jay Cain presents the SF Gay Men's Chorus, Shann Carr, Momi Starr and Ursula Cain in concert at CLUB FAB on THURSDAY, DEC. 28TH
\$100 per person for 5-course dinner and the show beginning at 1800.
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